

Saeed Al Hajri wins Jordan Rally

AMMAN (J.T.) — Saeed Al Hajri of Qatar drove his Porsche 911SCRS to victory in the Jordan leg of the 1985 Middle East Rally Championship which concluded here Friday. According to provisional results announced here Friday night Michel Saleh of Kuwait, Mohammad Ibn Sulayyem of the UAE, George Khayyat (Jordan), David Jepson (British nationality but Jordanian entry), Issa Halabi (Jordan), Jamal Marafie (Kuwait), Suhail Marar (Jordan), Hattam Mufri (Jordan) and Mamdouh Khayyat (Saudi Arabia) and Abbas Al Mousawi (Qatar) were placed in the next 10 winning positions in the three-day event which began Wednesday. Hajri was adjudged the overall winner among Group "B" Class 10 cars while Jepson won the contest among Group "A" Class 5 cars. Only 15 cars out of 35 starters could make it to the finishing line at the end of the rally. Friday's much-needed victory enables Hajri to narrow the gap between him and Ibn Sulayyem who is the leading contender for the 1985 Middle East Rally Championship.

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Rifai approves new sports complex

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai Friday presided over a meeting of the cabinet's Financial, Economic and Planning Committee, during which he approved a decision to construct an integrated sports city east of Amman. The proposed facility will include a stadium with a seating capacity for 15,000 people, a sports, cultural and social club and multi-purpose rooms and lounges. The project, which will also include a children's garden, car parks and lawns, will be financed by the government and run by the Ministry of Youth. The Ministry of Public Works has been charged with undertaking the necessary studies and drawing up the necessary plans and tender documents for the project. The project is aimed to provide playground and sports, cultural and recreational facilities for the densely-populated areas east and south of Amman.

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Death toll rises in Iranian blast

NICOSIA (AP) — The death toll from a bomb explosion aboard an intercity bus in northwestern Iran rose to 12 on Friday, Iran's state-run Tehran Radio reported. The radio said another 22 passengers, mostly women and children, were wounded in the Thursday blast. The bus was travelling from Tabriz, the capital of Azarbaijan province, to the city of Khoy, in the northwesternmost corner of Iran, when an eight-kg bomb exploded in its luggage compartment. IRNA, the official Iranian news agency reported earlier.

Crowe expected to succeed Vessey

WASHINGTON (USIA) — President Reagan will nominate Admiral William Crowe to succeed Admiral General John Vessey, who plans to retire Sept. 30. A spokesman said Mr. Reagan had written to Gen. Vessey praising his "enormous and lasting contribution" to the nation in 40 years of active duty. Vessey earned a battlefield commission during the World War II battle of the Anzio beachhead. Mr. Reagan said Vessey's "dedicated service" as chairman of the joint chiefs had helped to bring about "a safer, more stable world."

Reagan to have polyp surgery

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan was to enter hospital Friday to have a non-cancerous growth removed from his lower intestine. White House spokesman Larry Speakes said Mr. Reagan's entire intestinal tract would be examined at Bethesda naval medical centre in Maryland to determine if more polyps were present. "There's nothing that prompted it, except that after the last medical examination, the doctors conferred and decided it was a good idea to remove the polyp," he told reporters.

Israel convicts 4 Arabs of bomb plot

TEL AVIV (R) — An Israeli court has convicted four Arabs from the Gaza Strip of plotting to blow up the American embassy in a grenade attack in December. A three-judge court also found two of the defendants guilty of conspiring to blow up Israeli cars in Nabulus. It said the four would be sentenced at a later date.

Sabra mine kills Syrian soldier

BEIRUT (AP) — A land mine blew up a Syrian bulldozer and killed the Syrian driver who was clearing up rubble at west Beirut's battered Palestinian refugee camp of Sabra Friday, police said. The blast occurred at mid-morning. The wrecked bulldozer was with a Syrian engineering unit removing the debris left in the shantytown after last month's siege by Shi'ite Muslim forces of Beirut's Palestinian refugee camps, police said. (See story on page 2). The month-long siege, which left more than 600 people killed and 2,500 wounded, was halted by a Syrian-mediated truce June 18. The engineering unit arrived on Tuesday.

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Jerash Festival gets under way after inauguration by King

By Olga Mikhail
 Special to the Jordan Times

JERASH — Traditional Jordanian and Arabic music, yodeling and shouts of joy filled the air of this ancient city on Thursday when Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor patronised the inauguration of the Fourth Jerash Festival of Culture and Arts — an annual event which has become the symbol of Jordan's status as a crossroad of culture where the old mingles with the new.

Over 5,000 people, including royal family members, government leaders, senior civilian and army officers, public figures, diplomats and foreign guests, thronged the 2,000-year-old col-

umns of this ancient Greco-Roman city to witness the colourful inauguration of the 16-day cultural extravaganza which brings together artists from 21 Arab and foreign countries this year.

Yodeling and shouts of joy greeted the King and Queen when they arrived at the beautifully decorated main gate of the city, accompanied by Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker and Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Jaseem.

Queen Noor's father, Mr. Najeeb Halabi, her two brothers, and King Constantine, the former ruler of Greece, and his wife were among the special guests of King Hussein and Queen Noor at the

grand opening ceremony which started with a welcome speech by Dr. Mazen Armouti, director of the festival. After the speech, Dr. Armouti sought permission from Their Majesties to open the festival and lit the festival flame mounted on an ancient Roman column as the Jordan Armed Forces Band played the composition "Jerash."

As the last tunes of "Jerash" faded away, local and foreign troupes participating in the festival paraded through the Forum, greeting the King and Queen and the guests and rendering short performances of their various programmes expected to be staged during the festival.

(Continued on page 3)



Folklore troupes participating in the Fourth Jerash Festival perform before Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor who opened the 16-day cultural event on Thursday

Kuwait begins massive manhunt for cafe bombers

KUWAIT (Agencies) — A massive manhunt was underway Friday as a top Kuwaiti official said he hoped for a breakthrough soon in a drive to find bombers behind two restaurant blasts that killed 11 people and injured 89.

Interior Ministry Under-Secretary General Yousuf Bader Al Kharafi denied reports that some suspects had been arrested already. "We have not made any (arrests) yet," he told Reuters.

Asked if he expected a breakthrough soon in the search for Thursday night's bombers, he replied: "We hope so."

The emir of Kuwait declared a one-day mourning over the death of the 11 civilians in the two bomb blasts that ripped through two seaside cafes.

The emir, himself the target of an abortive assassination by unidentified gunmen May 25, denounced the blasts as a "treacherous crime."

Kuwait Radio cancelled regular programmes and shifted to recitals of the Koran, in the Islamic tradition of mourning the dead. This was occasionally interspersed with appeals from the authorities to citizens to report on any suspicious elements who may have been linked to the blasts.

The radio also broadcast appeals for blood donations to help out the 89 persons who were injured in the bomb explosions.

The dead included Col. Khalil Ghaith, director of supervision and coordination at the criminal investigations department. The rest of the victims were not fully identified, apart from the Interior Ministry reporting that they were mainly Kuwaiti nationals.

The injured included women and children of various Arab nationalities as well as Iranians and others.

Three international airports, closed to outgoing flights for a few hours after the blasts, was reopened. Army and police forces spread a dragnet throughout the country to hunt suspects and prevent them from fleeing the country, as a number of suspects were reported to have been detained and interrogated.

In Paris, the "Arab Revolutionary Brigades," in a telephone call to the French news

King, Rifai condemn attacks, voice solidarity with Kuwait

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein telephoned the emir of Kuwait on Friday to express his strong condemnation of Thursday's bomb attacks in Kuwait.

It said the King denounced the "atrocious attacks" and told the emir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, that all of Jordan's resources and capabilities were at the disposal of Kuwait to help the Gulf state defend itself against crime and terrorism, Petra said.

Sheikh Jaber expressed his thanks and appreciation to Jordan's genuine Arab stand under

the leadership of the King, Petra added.

Prime Minister Zaid Rifai also expressed Jordan's condemnation of the attacks in a telephone conversation with the acting prime minister of Kuwait, Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah. Mr. Rifai voiced Jordan's stand in solidarity with Kuwait in the face of terrorism, Petra said.

Sheikh Sabah expressed his thanks and appreciation of Jordan's stand. Petra added.

Jordanian trade union and public institutions have also condemned the attacks.

agency, claimed responsibility for the blasts. The obscure terrorist group told the agency that "the execution of Col. Khalil Ghaith... was linked to the measures of expulsion and deportation" which he allegedly spearheaded.

The anonymous caller was apparently alluding to a recent decision by the Kuwait government to deport 500 expatriate workers after the May 25 attempt on the life of the emir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah.

Kuwaiti newspapers roundly condemned the latest attacks, and called on the government to resist what they called pressures of blackmail aimed at changing national policies.

The two almost simultaneous blasts caused mayhem among crowds relaxing on the beachfront on the eve of the Muslim holy day.

Limbs flew through the air, and blood sprayed a wide area around one cafe as victims screamed for help, according to an eyewitness quoted by the Kuwait News Agency (KUNA).

Fire engines, police cars and ambulances, sirens wailing, raced along a beach promenade to avoid the traffic-clogged road and reach the shattered buildings a few kil-

The blasts follow a massive security sweep since the attack on the emir.

After the attack on the emir, an anonymous caller contacted foreign news agencies in Beirut to claim responsibility on behalf of the shadowy Islamic Jihad (holy war) group.

He linked the attack, from which the 59-year-old emir escaped with scratches, to demands for the release of 17 men jailed for bomb attacks in December 1983 which killed six people.

Five Iraqis and a Lebanese were sentenced to death last year, three in their absence, for their part in the blasts at the U.S. and French embassies and Kuwait government buildings. As far as is known, no executions have been carried out.

An emergency cabinet session denounced the blasts as a cowardly attack on innocent people and reaffirmed its determination to combat subversion.

"These cowardly acts of violence will not shake Kuwait's stand," a government statement said. "Kuwait will remain an oasis of peace and stability despite desperate, evil attempts to undermine the stability of the country."

Hussein, Arafat discuss latest developments and joint efforts

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein and Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat held talks Thursday on joint efforts to find a peaceful settlement to the Palestinian problem.

The Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said the talks between the two leaders, which included a working luncheon, covered "the latest developments in the Arab and international arenas, and an evaluation of joint Jordanian and Palestinian efforts to achieve peace in the Middle East and future joint political moves to rally support (for the efforts) on the international and Arab levels."

Mr. Arafat flew in from Tunis Thursday morning and was received shortly afterwards by King Hussein.

Mr. Arafat's visit to Jordan followed a series of meetings of the PLO leadership in Tunis and a brief visit he made to Morocco and Algeria where he discussed efforts to convene an extraordinary Arab summit in Casablanca on July 29 to discuss the Palestinian question.

According to well-informed

sources, Mr. Arafat discussed with the King results of the Tunis meetings of the PLO Executive Committee and the Central Committee of Fateh regarding the formation of a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation for a dialogue with the U.S. administration and the outcome of his talks in Rabat and Algiers.

The PLO leadership was expected to submit a list of names of Palestinians who are not members of the PLO to represent the Palestinian side to a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation and overcome American objections to talk with the PLO until the organisation recognises Israel.

PLO officials who were contacted by the Jordan Times in Amman and Tunis last week refrained from revealing if the organisation had already decided on the Palestinian side to the delegation. But one official said the PLO would only appoint those "who are closely connected with organisation and who can represent and defend its line and goals."

He reiterated previously announced positions that the PLO

Executive Committee should retain the right to announce the names of the Palestinian delegates as representatives of the PLO to the dialogue and that they should be equal in rank and number to the Jordanian side.

Sources close to the PLO leadership said the organisation is keen to emphasise that the suggested joint delegation would be formed only for conducting a dialogue with the U.S. and not for carrying out direct negotiations with Israel. "Starting a dialogue with the Americans and accepting to start direct negotiations with Israel are two different stories," one of the sources said.

Some political observers here believe that the PLO would like the projected dialogue to open direct channels with the U.S. without committing itself to any American conditions.

PLO officials stress that the ultimate goal of any dialogue would be a just settlement to the Palestinian question within the framework of an international conference and not through direct negotiations.

Beirut announces plans for legal action against TWA hijackers

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Greek police have sent Lebanon's public prosecutor the name of a Lebanese man suspected of complicity in hijacking a U.S. airliner last month and in killing an American passenger, according to legal sources quoted by Reuters.

The prosecutor had passed the name to judicial authorities but no further action was immediately expected.

Greek police told the prosecutor in a letter that the named man was suspected of carrying two fake passports, the sources said.

Reports that the prosecutor had received the names of three suspected hijackers were incorrect, they added.

Two Lebanese hijacked a Trans World Airlines (TWA) Boeing 727 carrying 153 passengers and crew on a flight from Athens to Rome on June 14 in an attempt to force the release of more than 700 prisoners held by Israel.

Greek police detained a third

gunman who failed to get on the flight but freed him later on the demand of the hijackers.

He was flown to Algiers and exchanged for 19 passengers and five stewards after a passenger, U.S. navy diver Robert Steihem, was shot dead on the plane's first stop in Beirut.

Lebanon's official state radio announced Friday the hijackers would be prosecuted. But the announcement was dropped from further newscasts without explanation.

The 11 a.m. local time (0800 GMT) news said government attorneys were ordered to prosecute three men it named as the alleged hijackers and an unspecified number of "others" who were unidentified.

The announcement by state radio, which often broadcasts official government statements, said the names of the alleged sky pirates were "referred to the competent judicial authorities."

It came three days after prosecutor-general Maurice Khawam told selected local reporters his office will "move against the TWA hijackers."

The radio named the known alleged hijackers as Ali Atwi, Ali Younis and Ahmad Gharibeh, but added there was no further information about them.

Ali Atwi was the gunman arrested by Greek police at Athens before the Boeing 727 was boarded but was later freed and flown to Algiers.

The announcement of legal action against the hijackers was welcomed by White House spokesman Larry Speakes Friday as "a step forward."

"We'll be watching with close interest to see what is now actually done to prosecute them," the spokesman said.

"We would applaud whatever progress the Lebanese authorities could make on this pressing matter," Speakes said.

New Beirut security team holds meeting

BEIRUT (AP) — Prime Minister Rashid Karami chaired the first meeting of a "coordination committee" Friday to enforce new security measures aimed at ending anarchy in west Beirut.

The meeting followed overnight mortar and rocket-propelled grenade battles between militiamen along Beirut's green line that left three people killed and 11 wounded, according to a police count.

A lull prevailed in the morning across the five-kilometre line that splits the capital into mostly Christian and mainly Muslim sectors. But occasional sniper fire kept all crossings between the city's two halves closed for the second straight day.

In addition to Mr. Karami, Defence Minister Adel Ossiran and senior Lebanese army and police officers attended the meeting.

Air India flight recorders to be examined in Bombay

BOMBAY (Agencies) — The "black box" flight recorders from a packed Indian airliner that crashed off Ireland last month will be opened and studied here despite reports of international opposition to their return.

An Air India spokesman told Reuters Friday both the voice and flight data recorders would be examined in airline workshops in Bombay, where the company is based.

The cockpit voice and flight recorders, which may help explain why the Air India Jumbo jet broke up in mid-air and plunged into the Atlantic on June 23, were located on the ocean floor by robot submarines off the Irish coast and flown to Bombay Friday.

A massive international search was launched for the recorders and other wreckage after the world's worst aviation crash at sea, in which all 329 people on board were killed.

Indian officials have not ruled out possible sabotage while two militant Sikh groups were reported to have claimed responsibility for bombing Flight 182 out of the sky.

The Press Trust of India (PTI) quoted a U.S. television network as saying British and U.S. aviation authorities were upset over plans to analyse the recorders in India.

Indian and Canadian officials told the Associated Press that the chief investigator for the Canadian civil aviation safety board, Pierre de Niverville, would fly to Bombay to assist in analysis of the flight recorders.

At London's Heathrow airport, the canister was put on Air India's flight 108 which took off for Bombay at noon Friday.

Canadian officials in Dublin told AP that Mr. De Niverville would go to India in the next few days.

King leaves for London

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein left Amman for London Friday on a private visit lasting several days during which he is expected to hold talks with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

King Hussein, who is accompanied by Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, was seen off by His Highness Prince Abdullah, His Highness Prince Talal Ibn Mohammad, Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Jaseem, Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh, cabinet members, high-ranking civil and military officers and British Ambassador, to Jordan Arthur John Coles.

Prior to King Hussein's departure, Prince Abdullah was sworn in as Regent during the King's stay abroad.

Soviets reject reports of shift in stand on SDI

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Communist Party daily Pravda Friday dismissed as a "sleazy stratagem" U.S. press reports that Moscow had softened its opposition to U.S. plans for a space missile defence at negotiations in Geneva.

The official newspaper was responding to a New York Times report on Tuesday which quoted administration officials as saying Soviet negotiators had indicated they would be willing to accept an arms treaty allowing "Star Wars" research.

"It is rumoured in Washington that the Soviet Union departs from its position on the unconditional ban of strike space arms," Pravda said.

"Some officials in the American capital... claim that the USSR no longer insists on the prohibition of research work in the area, while others allege that some Soviet representatives hinted about that elsewhere."

"All this is nothing but another sleazy stratagem of Washington propaganda," Pravda added.

Pravda said the Soviet Union stood firm in its opposition to all aspects of President Reagan's Strategic Defence Initiative programme (SDI).

The Geneva talks on space and nuclear weapons have been deadlocked over the SDI issue since they opened in March.

In Washington, a White House spokesman Thursday called for Soviet flexibility in Geneva talks by agreeing to reduce nuclear warheads.

Spokesman Larry Speakes was responding to a report quoting a congressman as saying a senior Soviet general told him that an offer two months ago by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev to reduce strategic forces by 25 per cent applied to warheads as well as launchers.

King receives South Korean message Seoul stresses support for Jordan's peace moves

By Sa'ad G. Hattar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein Thursday received a South Korean presidential envoy, currently on a five-day official visit to Jordan, who delivered a message to the King from Korean President Chun Doo Hwan.

The message stressed Seoul's support for Jordan's endeavours in bringing about a just and durable peace in the Middle East, based on the Feb. 11 agreement between Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (P.L.O.), United Nations key Resolutions 242 and 338 and the Fez summit decisions.

Other topics of the message have not been disclosed, but the envoy, who is the Foreign Affairs Committee chairman of the Korean National Assembly, Mr. Duwan Pong, told the Jordan Times, prospects of enhancing existing bilateral ties in all fields were included.

King Hussein briefed Mr. Duwan on the status quo in the region and reiterated his fears that the diplomatic efforts launched by Jordan could be the last chance to restore peace in the region if no solid action is adopted by the international community and the

concerned parties within the next few months.

When asked on whether the letter contained topics on the five-year old Iran-Iraq war and the Palestinian plight in Lebanon, Mr. Duwan said these issues could have been included in the message but "I am not sure of that."

However, Mr. Duwan pointed out that Korea had always called for a peaceful end to the Iran-Iraq war in which South Korea has a neutral stand.

At the meeting, King Hussein renewed an invitation for President Chun to visit Jordan. Mr. Duwan said, King Hussein had previously invited the Korean president to Jordan during the King's visit to Seoul in September 1983.

Attending the meeting were Chief of the Royal Court Marwan Al-Jasem and the Korean ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Jordan, Mr. Dong Soon Park.

Prime Minister and Minister of Defence Zaid Rifai had earlier met with Mr. Duwan and reviewed means of promoting and bolstering existing ties between the two countries. Mr. Duwan said that his meeting with the prime minister also covered the Middle East issues and the Palestinian question in addition to the situation in the Korean peninsula.

Mr. Duwan has also met with Foreign Affairs Minister Taher Al-Masri, Lower House of Parliament Speaker Akel Al-Fayez and Upper House (Senate) First Deputy Speaker, Hikmat Al-Masri.

The Jordanian foreign minister briefed the envoy on the latest developments in the region as well as the outcome of visits by the joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation to Italy and France to muster support for the Feb. 11 agreement.

The envoy was briefed by both Mr. Fayez and the Senate deputy speaker on the basis of the joint Jordanian-PLO peace agreement which emanates from resolutions adopted at the Fez Arab Summit and the U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 of 1967 and 338 of 1973.

Mr. Duwan is due to end his visit to Jordan on Saturday.

Iraqi jets hit another Turkish tanker

BAHRAIN (R) — Iraq Friday hit a second Turkish supertanker in the Gulf within a week, threatening an Iranian oil export shuttle operation from Kharg Island to the lower reaches of the waterway, shipping sources in the region said.

In Baghdad, a military spokesman said Iraqi warplanes had hit a "large naval target" south of Kharg and reported a ground attack on Iranian positions in the Gulf war's central sector.

The shipping sources said the oil-laden 226,000-deadweight-tonne M. Ceyhan was ablaze after being hit in the engine room on the starboard side by an air-fired missile.

They said dense black smoke was hampering fire-fighting operations, but that all crew members had been plucked to safety from life rafts by tugs at the scene.

The 112,742-gross-ton M. Ceyhan is the sister ship of the M.

Vatan, which was crippled on Tuesday in a similar Iraqi strike also about 100 miles south of Iran's main Kharg Island terminal in the north east of the Gulf after loading with oil.

Their Istanbul-based owners said both ships had been leased to Iran in April for six months to help shuttle oil from Kharg Island, inside an Iraqi-imposed war zone, to a makeshift export terminal off Sirri Island, 330 miles to the south east.

Four tankers involved in the shuttle to Sirri, near the entrance of the Gulf and outside the apparent range of Iraqi jets, have been confirmed hit in three months, jeopardising its operation which began in February, the shipping sources said.

They said about eight tankers, including three ultra large crude carriers (ULCCs) stationed off Sirri, were believed involved in the shuttle at any one time.

The system means that exporting tankers spend minimal time in the Gulf, thus avoiding higher insurance risks, and do not have to run the gauntlet to Kharg where about 40 merchant ships, mainly tankers, have been hit since March last year.

Some Iranian oil customers still use Kharg, bypassing Sirri which shipping sources say theoretically has the capability to handle up to 1.5 million barrels per day of oil.

More than 90 ships have been hit in Iranian and Iraqi air strikes in the 15-month-old "tanker war", an extension of their ground conflict which started in September 1980.

In Istanbul, a spokesman for M. Ceyhan and M. Vatan's owners, Cerahogullari Umumi Nakliyat-Vapurculuk Ve Ticaret T.A.S., said the company and understood there was no leakage from the M. Ceyhan and that all 38 crew members were safe.

Shamir urges freedom of Jewish terrorists

TEL AVIV (R) — Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir has appealed for an amnesty for 25 Jewish settlers convicted of taking part in an underground movement that killed Arabs. Israel Radio reported.

The settlers had also plotted to blow up Jerusalem's Dome of the Rock Mosque, one of Islam's holiest sites.

Right-wing leaders said they would ask President Chaim Herzog to pardon the defendants next week after a Jerusalem court sentences the 15 found guilty Wednesday.

They said the 10 other defendants were given jail terms of 15 months to 10 years after pleading guilty earlier.

Police arrested the settlers 14 months ago. Three were convicted of killing three Palestinian students in a 1983 attack on Hebrew's Islamic College. Under Israeli law, the three settlers must be sentenced to life imprisonment.

The court convicted other settlers of maintaining two Palestinian mayors in 1980 car bombings and planting bombs discovered on five

Arab buses before they exploded in 1984.

A public opinion survey in the newspaper Yedioth Ahronoth in May showed that nearly three-quarters of the public favoured releasing the underground members.

The poll was taken days after Israel traded 1,150 pro-Palestinian prisoners for three Israeli soldiers captured in Lebanon by Ahmad Jibril's Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command.



Dumas: Mideast peace enters 2nd phase

CAIRO (R) — French External Affairs Minister Roland Dumas has said that a Middle East peace initiative had entered a second phase and France would "act as a motor" in the European Community to help achieve Arab-Israeli peace.

Mr. Dumas had two hours of talks with President Hosni Mubarak and other officials after arriving in Egypt on a two-day visit and later told a news conference the talks ranged over international and Middle Eastern issues.

Mr. Dumas recently met in Paris a joint Palestinian-Jordanian team that explained the Feb. 11 peace accord between Jordan and Palestine Liberation Organisation (P.L.O.). France and Egypt have been in close touch recently on efforts to revive Arab-Israeli negotiations.

Mr. Mubarak followed the accord, which basically swapped land for peace with Israel, with a call for talks between a joint Palestinian-Jordanian delegation and Washington as a prelude to an international peace conference.

"We have concluded (with Egypt) that the first phase of this initiative has reached its term and is in the second phase," Mr. Dumas said. "This second phase consists of forming a joint Palestinian-Jordanian delegation to meet the Americans."

He said the outcome of talks in Rome and Paris with the Palestinian-Jordanian team, which has been lobbying support in Europe for the February accord, would be relayed to other nations of the 10-nation Community at their meeting on July 18.

"Next week in Luxembourg we shall continue our discussions and see what the European Community is ready to do," he said.

"In any case, France will act as a motor within the European Community to facilitate the progress toward peace."

Inspectors detect illegal uranium sales to Israel

BRUSSELS (R) — International inspectors have plugged a hole in the uranium trade which allowed Israel to acquire illegally materials that could be used to make nuclear bombs, according to sources in three capitals.

The sources said more than 40 tonnes of depleted uranium, which experts said could be used to produce two kilos of weapons-grade plutonium, had reached Israel via Luxembourg from Britain.

Inspectors from Euratom, the European Community's nuclear agency, working with the Vienna-based International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) found that the material was imported by a Luxembourg metals company and re-exported to Israel.

Israel is not a signatory of the nuclear non-proliferation treaty and is widely thought to have a nuclear weapons capability. But IAEA sources said Israel had satisfied them that the material had not this time been used to make bombs.

Smaller quantities of depleted uranium from France had also gone to Israel after being imported into Luxembourg from a third country which the sources declined to name.

Officials and diplomats in Brussels, Vienna and Luxembourg said the discovery was the first under IAEA safeguard rules since the signing of the 1968 non-proliferation treaty.

Both the IAEA and Euratom were delighted with the find which officials said showed the safeguards to be effective.

"Our safeguards system is based on detection," a Euratom source said. "And high probability of detection triggers deterrence because of possible political sanctions."

British officials confirmed that nuclear material shipped from Britain to Luxembourg under an export licence for use in steel-making had found its way to Israel in contravention of international agreements.

"They denied that London had

formally protested to Luxembourg, which argued that the sale to Israel of depleted uranium was not notifiable under international rules.

But they said Luxembourg had now pledged to stop the trade which brought it into conflict with its Euratom partners, keen to halt the illegal spread of potential weapons-grade uranium.

Diplomats said Britain and other Community states who found their material misdirected had complained vehemently within Euratom against Luxembourg's action and it was the partners that was forcing the grand duchy to stop the trade.

Diplomats said Euratom was not yet happy with the Luxembourg response and wanted a more solid pledge.

"We'll make bloody certain we don't sell them any more," one British official said.

IAEA sources in Vienna said the trade was first revealed last month in the annual report of its governing body which mentioned the infraction without identifying the parties.

Israel has since told the IAEA that the material was imported for non-nuclear, non-explosive purposes and had allowed IAEA officials to inspect a major part of the uranium.

The IAEA sources said the extremely heavy depleted uranium, which has a lower concentration of the radioactive isotope uranium 235 than that available in natural uranium, could produce weapons-grade plutonium if bombarded with radiation.

The Luxembourg government Thursday denied that the export of over 40 tonnes of depleted uranium to Israel from the grand duchy broke international rules designed to prevent the proliferation of nuclear arms.

The government confirmed in a statement that depleted uranium had been exported to Israel, but said: "Luxembourg reacted in compliance with the requirements of international law."

Palestinian dissidents seize relief supplies

AMMAN (J.T.) — A consignment of 10,000 blankets sent as a donation by Jordan to the Palestinian refugees in Lebanon has been seized by armed men on the way to the camps in Beirut, Ministry of Labour and Social Development has said in a statement here.

It said the blankets were intended as part of relief supplies in response to a call by the International Committee of the Red Cross for the victims and displaced Palestinian refugees in Beirut following the latest aggression on their camps.

The ministry, which organised the shipment in 200 bales said in the statement that the blankets were dispatched on board trucks via Syria under the auspices of the Red Cross, and the convoy was accompanied on the way by three ministry officials.

But it said, the Syrian authorities delayed the passage of the trucks first at the Syrian border town of Der'a and then at the Lebanese-Syrian border at

Masna'a and demanded financial guarantees of 100,000 Syrian pounds.

The trucks which left Jordan on July 1st eventually reached Lebanon on July 8 after much delay and relentless efforts by the Red Cross to see the shipment through, the statement said.

According to the statement, the four trucks upon entering Lebanon were seized by armed men who forced the drivers to follow side roads. After driving some distance inside Lebanese territory the trucks were stopped, the blankets stolen and the drivers were issued notes bearing stamps of the so-called "Salvation Front", the statement said.

The ministry statement voiced Jordan's deep regret and resentment at this "piracy and act of lawlessness committed by armed gangs which have earlier committed aggression on the Palestinian camps in Lebanon."

The "Salvation Front" groups, Palestinians opposed to Palestine Liberation Organisation (P.L.O.) Chairman Yasser Arafat.

Arabs condemn decision to close Hospice Hospital

TUNIS (J.T.) — A meeting by Arab states hosting Palestinian refugees has deplored Israel's decision to close down the Hospice Hospital in Arab Jerusalem.

A statement issued by the delegates of Jordan, Syria, Lebanon and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (P.L.O.) at the end of the meeting denounced the Israeli decision as inhuman and violating international laws and human rights principles.

The delegates appealed to the world community and international organisations to prevent the Israeli authorities from closing the hospital by the end of this month.

"The hospital has been offering services to the Arab population

and its closure would only increase the sufferings of the Palestinian people under occupation," the delegates said in a statement at the final session.

The subject of the Hospice Hospital was raised by Jordan at the Arab Health Ministers Council meetings in Tunis towards the end of last month.

The Jordanian delegation to the meeting was led by Dr. Ahmad 'Atanani, under secretary of the Ministry of Occupied Territories Affairs who said that Jordan submitted two memos dealing with the condition of Arab inhabitants in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip and the Israeli colonisation programme in the occupied lands.

Israel seizes Arab lands to build military airport

AMMAN (Petra) — The Israeli authorities have seized hundreds of dunams of Arab land in the occupied Arab West Bank with the intention of building a military airport, according to reports reaching here from the occupied territory.

The reports said land owned by Arab inhabitants of Beit Furik, Asmout and Salem in the Nablus district, were confiscated and sealed off by the military authorities.

The lands have been cultivated by the Arab inhabitants who have no other source of living, the reports said.

They said Jewish settlers from the nearby Deir Al Hatab region have been charged with the task of guarding the land for the Israeli government, preventing Arabs from cultivating them. According to the reports the seizure of the lands was resisted by the Arab owners for months but their efforts were in vain.

Australian speaker due Wednesday

AMMAN (Petra) — Speaker of the Australian house of parliament, Mr. Henry Jenkins, is due to arrive on Wednesday for a visit to Jordan lasting five days. Mr. Jenkins is expected to meet speakers of both houses of parliament and senior officials for discussions on bilateral relations and international issues.

Court sentences embezzler

AMMAN (Petra) — The military court has sentenced Hosni Awad Mohammad Hassan to three years imprisonment with hard labour for embezzlement. The general military governor endorsed the sentence.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

23:00 News Summary
23:05 Country Music
23:57 News Headlines
24:00 Close down

MAIN CHANNEL

17:00 Koran
17:30 Cartoons
18:30 Children Programmes
18:30 Arabic Documentary
19:00 Local Programme
19:30 Programme Review
19:30 News Programme
20:00 News in Arabic
20:00 Arabic Series
21:00 Tomorrow's Programmes
21:30 Local Programmes on the latest published books
22:30 Arabic Series
23:00 News in Arabic
23:10 Religious Programme and singing off

FOREIGN CHANNEL

17:30 German Programme
18:00 Le rôle des femmes
18:30 Les salons du monde
19:00 News in French
19:15 Les démons des années 50
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Vietnam
21:10 Saturday Variety Show
22:00 News in English
22:30 Feature Film: The Sowing of Kilmalloy

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM & party on 95.60 KHz, SW
Tel: 774111-19

07:00 Light Music
07:30 Newsdesk
08:00 Morning Show
10:00 News Summary
10:05 Pop Session
12:00 News Summary
12:05 Pop Session cont.
13:00 News Summary
13:05 Pop Session cont.
14:00 News Bulletin
14:10 Jordan Weekly
14:30 Music
15:00 Concert Hour
16:00 News Summary
16:05 Old Favorites
17:00 Talking Points
17:30 Animal Vegetable Mineral
18:00 News Summary
18:05 Top Twenty
19:00 News
20:00 Date with a Star
20:30 The 15th Century A.H.
21:00 The Young Sound
21:00 News Summary
21:05 25 Years of Rock
21:55 News Summary
22:00 The Blues

BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1413 KHz
07:00 Newsdesk 07:30 That's That 07:45
Financial News 7:55 Reflections 08:00
World News 08:09 News Summary
08:15 Arabic Bulletin 08:45
Time 09:00 Newsdesk 09:30 Album
Time 10:00 World News 10:09 24
Hours: News Summary 10:30 From the
Arab World 10:45
World News 11:09 Reflections 11:15 A
Jolly Good Show 12:00 World News
12:09 British Press Review 12:15 The
World Today 12:30 Financial News
12:40 Arab Affairs 12:45 The Age of
Elegance 13:00 News Summary: That's
That 13:30 People and Politics 14:09
News About Britain 14:15 Cricket
Commentary 14:20
Radio Newsworld 15:15 Anything Goes
15:45 Sports Round-up 16:00 World
News 16:09 Twenty-Four Hours: News
Summary 16:30 Newsdesk, U.K. 16:45
Country Music Profile 17:00 News
Summary, Saturday Special 17:30
Album Time 18:00 Radio Newsworld
18:15 Saturday Special 18:45 World
News 19:00 19:15
Saturday Special 20:00 News Summary:
Sunday Special 20:45 Sports Round-up
21:00 Newsdesk 21:30 Baker's Half
Hour 21:40 News Summary: Middle East
22:00 World News
News Summary 23:30 Jazz for the Asking
24:00 News Summary: Tomorrow's
Child 00:15 What's On 00:30 People
and Politics 01:40 World News 01:09
From our own Correspondent 01:30
New Ideas 01:40 Reflections 01:45
Sports Round-up 02:00 World News
Summary 02:05 Commentary 02:15 Letterbox
02:30 Meridian

VOICE OF AMERICA

1260 MW, 720, 955, 11740 11925
and 15210 KHz
06:00 News 06:10 VOA Morning 06:30
News Summary VOA Morning 07:00
News 07:10 VOA Morning 07:30 News
Summary VOA Morning 08:00 News
08:10 Closeup 08:30 News Summary,
VOA Morning 09:00 News 09:10 VOA
Morning 09:30
VOA Morning 10:00 News 10:10 The
10:30 Press Conference USA 19:00
News 18:10 American viewpoints 18:30
Special English News Features 21:00
News on Weekend 21:00 News 21:10
Close-up 21:30
Special English News
and Features 22:00 News 22:10 American
viewpoints 22:30 Press Conference
USA 23:00 News and Editorial
23:15 Arabic USA Jazz 24:00 News 00:10
Weekend

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

CIRCUS

* Hungarian circus at Hussein Youth City. 2 performances a day.

* Italian circus. Between 6th and 7th Circle near Jordan Electricity Authority.

CINEMA

* "Marie Octobre" at 7:45 p.m. at the French Cultural Centre.

VIDEO

* A video on music "Debussy" at 4:00 p.m. at the French Cultural Centre.

MUSICAL BAND

* The Red Clay Ramblers, a professional Country-Western band, at 10:30 p.m. at the Jerash Festival.

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre. Tel. 661026/7

American Centre. 644371

British Council. 641520

French Cultural Centre. 637009

Goethe Institute. 641993

Soviet Cultural Centre. 644203

Spanish Cultural Centre. 624049

Turkish Cultural Centre. 639777

Haya Arts Centre. 665195

Y.W.C.A. 641793

Y.W.M.C.A. 664251

Amman Municipal Library. 637111

University of Jordan Library. 843555

MUSEUMS

Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre. Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 651760.

Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al-Qara (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.

Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alia information department at the Queen Alia International Airport, tel. (08) 53200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

07:25 London, Larnaca (BA)

08:45 Agaba (RJ)

10:30 Beirut (RJ)

10:40 Doha (RJ)

10:45 Cairo (RJ)

10:50 Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (RJ)

11:00 Doha (RJ)

11:00 Singapore (RJ)

11:15 Riyadh (RJ)

12:30 Cairo (RJ)

12:30 Istanbul (RJ)

13:00 Muscat, Doha, Bahrain (RJ)

13:20 Moscow (RJ)

14:35 Kuwait (RJ)

17:15 Baghdad (RJ)

18:15 Larnaca (RJ)

18:30 New York, Vienna (RJ)

18:30 Cairo (RJ)

18:30 Paris, Damascus (RJ)

19:00 Copenhagen, Frankfurt (RJ)

19:25 Istanbul (RJ)

19:55 Rome, Damascus (RJ)

21:00 Frankfurt (RJ)

01:25 Baghdad (RJ)

DEPARTURES

06:20 Frankfurt (LH)

07:30 Agaba (RJ)

08:00 Beirut (RJ)

09:10 Larnaca, London (BA)

11:45 Tripoli (RJ)

12:00 Vienna, New York (RJ)

12:05 Geneva, Madrid (RJ)

12:50 Cairo (RJ)

13:00 Paris, London (RJ)

13:15 Frankfurt, Brussels (RJ)

13:30 Larnaca (RJ)

13:50 Rome (RJ)

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plies

NEWS IN BRIEF

Queen meets wife of S.Korean envoy

AMMAN (J.T.) — Her Majesty Queen Noor received Friday the wife of visiting South Korean presidential envoy Duwan Fong. Attending the meeting was South Korean Ambassador in Amman Dong Soon Park. Mr. Duwan arrived in Amman Wednesday on a five-day official visit to Jordan.

Rifai receives Egyptian culture minister

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai Thursday received Egyptian Minister of Culture Abdul Hamid Radwan. The meeting was attended by Minister of Information, Culture, Tourism and Antiquities Mohammad Al Khatib and the Egyptian ambassador in Amman. Mr. Radwan arrived here Wednesday at the head of an Egyptian delegation to take part in the Jerash Festival.

Decree appoints Foreign Ministry officials

AMMAN (J.T.) — A Royal Decree has appointed Yasin Istabul director of the Foreign Ministry's Political Department, Khalil Othman director of the Research Department, Sultan Lutfi director of the Organisations Department, Shahr Bak director of ceremonies, Walid Al Durra director of the Consulates Department, Khaled Kayed director of the Press Department, Zuhair Sakdijha director of the Administration and Finance and Ibrahim Naghawieh director of the private office.

Nsour returns from Khartoum

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Planning Abdullah Nsour returned to Amman Friday from Khartoum after attending the meetings of the board of governors of the Arab Economic and Social Development Fund. Dr. Nsour said that during the four-day meetings matters pertaining to the fund's budget and the fund's credit policy were discussed. He said that the board also elected the fund's president. Dr. Nsour added that he had discussions with other Arab delegates on bilateral relations between their countries and Jordan.

Khayyat briefs council of churches team

AMMAN (Petra) — A delegation representing the council of churches for the relief of refugees in the Near East conferred here Thursday with Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat. The minister spoke about Israel's violations of holy places in the occupied Arab territories and explained his ministry's efforts to safeguard Islamic and religious sites.

Dakhqan to meet the press Sunday

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Agriculture Ahmad Dakhqan is to meet with the press at the ministry Sunday to discuss the proposed agricultural policy for Jordan.

Labour office issues 757 work permits

AMMAN (Petra) — The Amman Labour Office last week issued 757 work permits to workers, 378 of which were for Arab workers while the rest were issued to foreigners. Amman Labour Office sources said Thursday. The sources added that the office has organised travel procedures for 46 Jordanian workers to Saudi Arabia where they will work for several companies.



KING HONOURS ARABSAT PRESIDENT — His Majesty King Hussein presents the Jordanian Al Kawlab Medal of the First Order to Dr. Ali Al Mashat, president of the Arab Satellite Communications Organisation (ARABSAT) for his efforts in bolstering telecommunications services among Arab countries. The King presented the medal to Dr. Mashat during a meeting at the Royal Court (Petra photo)

Senate approves People's Army law; women to train in separate centres

By Lamis K. Antoni
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai Thursday announced that People's Army training posts, which are scheduled to start running courses for conscripts in August, will be confined to men while girls will be trained at their schools in accordance with Arab and Islamic traditions.

Mr. Rifai, who was addressing a regular session of the Upper House of Parliament during which the Senate approved the People's Army Law, was responding to strong opposition expressed by members of the Lower House who argued that the new law contradicted "Islamic principles and traditions."

"In reply to the controversy over applying the law to women and to clarify any misunderstandings which might have arisen, I would like to read to you the new instructions issued by the higher command of the People's Army concerning this question," the prime minister said.

Mr. Rifai then read the new orders "which stipulate that girls would be trained within their school compounds under the supervision of women trainers."

The prime minister said that the

higher command of the People's Army has already issued orders and instructions regarding setting up special training posts for women.

The decision to set up special training centres for girls inside their school compounds came in response to strong opposition expressed by several Lower House members to the People's Army law which is supposed to be applied to both sexes without discrimination.

A discussion of the People's Army, however, provoked a stormy debate in the Lower House last week and led to a walkout by two deputies. Nevertheless, the Lower House passed the law following an elaborate speech by the prime minister on the role played by Islamic and Arab women in defending their countries throughout Arab history. Mr. Rifai cited examples of outstanding Muslim women who fought alongside with men in the early stages of Islam as well as Palestinian and Lebanese women who carried out commando operations against Israeli occupation forces in recent years.

"Amman deputy Latih Shbeilat, who walked out in protest during last week's debate, argued that the law contravened "the views of the

people" he represented.

Mr. Shbeilat, who obtained the highest number of votes during the 1984 by-elections, campaigned on a platform based on Islamic teachings but at the same time advocated armed struggle "as the only means to liberate Palestine". Mr. Shbeilat was not available for comment.

In contrast to the Lower House's heated debate, the senators approved the law and the new instructions regarding segregation of women's and men's training centres following a brief and calm discussion.

The only reservation was expressed by Senator Hael Srour who suggested that the law should exempt women from compulsory conscription to the People's Army but this did not gain the house's support.

Following the approval of the law, Mr. Rifai thanked the house and read the new orders to set up special women's training centres, which he described to be consistent with "our traditions, ethics and customs".

According to the new instructions "training posts around the country shall be confined to men while special training centres are going to be set up within school compounds to train girls."

Ministry regulates company mergers

Economic committee issues new regulations, tax exemptions for local firms which merge

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Economic Security Committee at the Ministry of Industry and Trade has issued instructions and regulations governing procedures for mergers among Jordanian companies and firms.

Director of the ministry's companies and commercial patents registration office, Mr. Mu'awih Khammash, said that the regulations were issued after a number of local firms expressed the desire to merge. He also said that the new regulations will facilitate the process of mergers and will safeguard the national economy.

Mr. Khammash stated that the mergers would form new and stronger economic units instead of the current situation where weak industrial concerns or companies are competing with one another and causing damage to the economy.

The Ministry of Industry and Trade issued specific rules defining principles for merging firms. They are designed to protect the

rights of all parties involved in the mergers and will cover means for settling issues that might arise in the process of merging companies, he said.

These regulations include: — Exempting companies which merge from paying fees and taxes that would otherwise have to be paid as a result of the merger, especially fees for the transfer of ownership or those normally charged for increasing companies' capitals as well as income taxes and profits of the merged companies for one fiscal year. Companies which merge will also be exempt from paying insurance stamps required for the process of merging and fees for the registration and licensing of the new

entity. — Permission will be granted for conducting an estimation of transferrable and untransferrable assets, including lands, by a committee set up by the Minister of Industry and Trade.

— Transferring all the rights and commitments belonging to the merging companies to the new entity and the newly-formed company will take responsibility for these rights and commitments on a legal basis.

— Terminating all forms of circulation of shares owned by the merging companies pending the issuance of new shares by the new company after the merger has been completed and following approval by the Minister of Industry and Trade.

According to Mr. Khammash, the new regulations will remain in force until the ministry has issued a new companies law which will include provisions pertaining to mergers in a more detailed form.

Post offices to handle college applications

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Communications Muheddin Al Hussein announced Thursday that post offices in the Kingdom will soon be accepting applications from students wishing to join government-run community colleges. The new system will follow a similar process to the handling of applications for students enrolling at universities, he said.

The minister made the announcement during ceremonies for opening four new post offices in

Amman Governorate. He said that the ministry was doing its best to develop services offered by the post offices because, he said, such development was bound to contribute to the country's progress in all fields.

The minister said that the Ministry of Communications has embarked on practical steps designed to expand post office services in villages and rural regions and will continue to improve and expand postal, telephone and telex ser-

vices in the Amman region as part of the ministry's coming five-year development plan.

Mr. Hussein opened post offices at Tareq, Baiader Wadi Seer, Umm Al Summaq and Khulda. The opening ceremonies were attended by Amman Governor Ali Bashir, senior ministry officials, heads of local government departments and guests as well as mayors of the districts where the new post offices are located.

Egyptian pharmaceutical delegation arrives

AMMAN (Petra) — An Egyptian pharmaceutical corporation delegation, led by the corporation's chairman of the board Medhat Jattan, arrived here Friday on a four-day visit to Jordan.

Dr. Jattan said in a statement to the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, that the purpose of the delegation's visit is to follow-up on implementation of a co-

operation protocol in the fields of medicine and drug production requirements, legislative affairs as well as professional cooperation.

He added that the delegation will hold talks with Jordanian officials regarding the import and export of \$10 million worth of medicines between the two countries in the present year. This is part of a \$55 million bilateral deal

signed between the two countries last March. The delegation will meet Minister of Supply, Industry and Trade Rajal Al Muasher and Minister of Health Zaid Hamzeh.

Receiving the delegation at the airport was the Jordan Commercial Centres' Corporation (JCCC) Director General Mohammad Bani Hani.

Festival fun begins with auspicious inauguration ceremony



Flags of the countries participating in the festival are carried through the Forum

(Continued from page 1)

As soon as the opening ceremony was over, the air was filled with captivating songs to the accompaniment of music from various local bands using different instruments, including bagpipes and flute. Most of the songs were in praise of King Hussein, his generosity and kindness.

The Armed Forces Band, Al Badia Folklore Troupe and the Public Security Department Band led the music performance.

Theatrical troupes, led by the pan-Arab group "One Thousand and One Nights in Souk Okaz" paraded in front of the King and Queen and so did the "Uncle Jamal Children's Troupe", and other groups staging the plays "A

Wedding Without a Bridegroom", and "Either You or Me." The procession continued with the Egyptian National Puppet Theatre, the Friendship Theatre Group and the Haya Art Centre Children's group that will present the play "Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves."

The musical troupes also included the "Fuhais Turath Group", the "Yarmouk University Musical Troupe", the "Abdo Mousa Musical Troupe", the "Red Clay Ramblers" from the USA, the Prince Ali Art and Musical Troupe from Sweileh and the "Iraqi Fashion Through the Ages" group.

Following the musical troupes came a selection of folklore troupes participating in the festival. Two Egyptian folklore troupes — the "National Folklore Group" and the "Spontaneous Art Group" — are participating in the festival. The U.S. has sent the Kawahadi troupe, — American dancers dressed in Red Indian costumes.

Local folklore groups, with pride and great enthusiasm, walked through the Forum and presented a short display of dabke and samer dances in their distinct regional costumes. The Shikhan Kids Folklore Troupe, the Circassian Folklore Troupe — presenting Russian leaps and bou-



nces, — the North Youth Group, the Yarmouk University Dabke Group, the Local Marine Group of Popular Art and the Palestine Samer Dance Group which include the Beit Al Fujjar Kids, the Gaza Turath Group and the Sa'ad Sael Group, were among the most prominent local groups.

While greeting Their Majesties the Samer Group sang national songs praising the Palestinian-Jordanian cohesion. A little boy from the group danced his way to King Hussein and Queen Noor and presented them a kofia embroidered with the Palestinian flag. After the inauguration, Yarmouk University President Dr. Adnan Badran presented Their

Majesties gifts marking the Fourth Jerash Festival.

King Hussein and Queen Noor, accompanied by their guests and cabinet members, toured the festival site and visited various art exhibitions in the Zeus Vaults, and fine arts, handicrafts and book exhibitions in the Colonnade as well as many other exhibition stalls.

Their Majesties also attended some of the performances that started Thursday at the Artemis Steps, the Light and Sound Amphitheatre and the South Theatre where they watched "One Thousand and One Tales in Souk Okaz".

A number of Arab and int-

ernational performances and activities, catering to almost every age and taste, were staged Thursday. At the Forum the Spontaneous Art Troupe from Egypt started their first performance by rendering traditional Egyptian dances from the Saeed region.

Most of the troupes participating in the festival have already arrived here and others are expected to arrive this week. They include the "Smid" group from the South Ossetia state of the USSR, "London City Ballet" and the Maria Carassco Troupe which will present the popular Spanish dance, the Flamenco.

The festival will be open daily from 6:00 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. and will run until July 26.

Today's events at Jerash: In the Forum — 6:00 - 6:30 Jordanian Army Band, 6:30 - 7:30 Traditional Jordanian Dances and Songs, 9:30 - 10:30 "Spontaneous Art" Folk Troupe from Egypt. In the South Theatre — 7:45 - 9:30 "Alf-Hikaya" Pan-Arab Play, 10:45 - 12:15 National Folk Troupe - Egypt. On the Artemis Steps — 6:30 - 7:30 Izmir Folk Troupe - Turkey, 8:15 - 9:45 Arabic Poetry - Session 2, 10:30 - 12:00 "Red Clay Ramblers" - USA. At the Sound and Light Theatre 6:15 - 7:30 "Ya Ammi Ya Jam-



King Hussein, Queen Noor, the Jerash Festival committee and invited guests stand for the national anthem at the beginning of the opening ceremony.

nal" - Arabic Play for Children, 8:15 - 9:30 "The Grand Night" - Egyptian Puppet Show, 10:30 - 11:30 The "Lights" Band - Jordan. At the Colonnade Theatre — 7:30 - 8:00 Yarmouk University "Dubke" Troupe, 9:45 - 10:15 Jordanian "Dubke" & Songs. In the Zeus Vaults — 5:00 - 12:00 Paintings & Fine Arts Exhibition.



King Hussein and Queen Noor tour the festival site and view the activities in the colonnade



The festival flame atop a Roman column



Members of the Fuhais Turath troupe file past the King and Queen during the presentation of participants. Photos by Youssef Al 'Allan



ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Friday's

Al Ra'i: New terrorist act

ARMED TERRORISTS who had been attacking Palestinian camps in Beirut have committed yet another aggression against the refugees by stealing blankets donated by Jordan to the displaced and helpless people.

Regardless of their identity, the robbers and armed men were acting in an area controlled by the Syrian army and, therefore, the robbers were backed by the Syrian authorities who had earlier hampered the passage of the shipment through their territory. This robbery should be condemned by all Arabs because it really harms their reputation and weakens their position worldwide. The Israelis are bound to exploit this incident to distort Arab image abroad, and world nations which have been offering relief aid to the Arabs would reconsider their position and have a second thought about such aid. The incident was therefore intended as a means of distorting the Arab image and further causing damage to the Palestinian people's cause.

Al Dustour: Looting Jordanian aid

A STATEMENT issued by the Ministry of Labour and Social Development in Amman Thursday about the looting of blankets destined for the Palestinian refugees in Lebanon reveals clearly the real dimension of lawlessness and acts of piracy committed by the armed militias of Lebanon. The robbery can be understood only as another link in a long chain of a terrorist campaign directed against the refugee camps and another form of aggression on these camps.

The so-called Salvation Front, which had helped the enemies of the Palestinians in their aggression, has now been transformed into highwaymen and robbers depriving the victims of their aggression from essential relief aid. Jordan, which donated the blankets, had never imagined that they would fall in the hands of criminals and outlaws.

We condemn this crime and at the same time cannot rule out the role of the Syrian regime in the robbery because, it took place in Syrian-controlled regions of Lebanon.

Sawt Al Shaab: A summit is urgent

THE NEW escalation of Iranian attacks on Iraq and repeated attempts by Iranian troops to enter Iraqi territory emphasise the need for the Arab nation to rally and mobilise in the face of the common danger and conspiracies. Also the escalation in the Lebanese crisis and the continued factional fighting reflect the weakness of the Arab countries in the face of crises and inability to handle urgent issues.

The latest escalation of aggression against the Palestinian people in the camps of Lebanon is designed to liquidate the whole of the Palestine problem and draw a wedge in the ranks of the Palestinian people. These current developments cannot be dealt with outside the framework of a joint Arab action.

An Arab summit has become of paramount importance to help the Arab nation to rise to the level of challenges and confront the common dangers. Jordan has been exerting all possible efforts to convene this summit because it is determined to work towards bolstering Arab solidarity and enabling the Arabs find proper solutions to their problems.

Thursday's

Al Ra'i: Palestinians — the common victim

ISRAELI WEDNESDAY launched a raid on the Palestinian refugee camps of Nahr Al Bared and Beddawi killing and wounding innocent civilians. Other Palestinian camps in Lebanon like Shatila, Sabra and Bourj Al Barajneh had earlier fallen victim to massacres by Lebanese militia and there are indications that the refugee camps in South Lebanon are targets for more such attacks and atrocities.

The Palestinians have therefore become the target of the Israelis and militias just the same, and the Israeli enemy and the Lebanese militia find themselves in the same trench fighting a common Palestinian target all the time. The militia in Lebanon which used to raise slogans in support of the Palestinians and their rights are in fact launching a war of genocide against the Palestinian people.

The Israeli raids are a kind of terrorist activity against the innocent peoples of the camps and any international offensive against terrorism should start by stemming Israeli actions against these camps and stopping the militia aggression on the Palestinians. Israel has implanted violence and terrorism in Lebanon and is setting a notorious example for others to follow suit.

Al Dustour: Saudi support boosts hopes

KING HUSSEIN'S visit to Saudi Arabia and his talks with King Fahd resulted in the emergence of an identity of views between Jordan and Saudi Arabia with regard to the Arab summit meeting which is needed to help the Arabs find a way to confront common threats. Needless to say, Saudi Arabia's support for the convening of the summit has opened the way for it and enhanced the prospects of Arab solidarity. Saudi Arabia's support for the idea of a summit is an open backing for Jordan's endeavours to rally the Arabs in the face of danger. Both leaders were keen on reviewing current Arab affairs and the developments of the Palestinian problem, and both emphasised the need for a meeting of Arab leaders.

Once more and more Arab states join in there will be no more room for the minority to sabotage joint Arab action and disrupt the coming summit meeting.

Was it just one more hostage crisis?

The horrors of terrorism have been brought home once again to the American public. But, has the hijack saga been "just one more hostage crisis"? Reginald Dale looks at the implications of the agony of TWA Flight 847.

WASHINGTON: It was, said a haggard-looking Robert McFarlane, "just one more crisis". As the aircraft carrying the 39 American hostages finally cleared Syrian airspace, President Reagan's national security adviser seemed to be suggesting that the White House had easily taken the harrowing events of the previous 17 days in its stride. Throughout, he added loyally, Mr. Reagan had remained "unflappable."

Few Americans will have taken Mr. McFarlane's disingenuous understatement at face value. The emotional ordeal of the TWA hostages presented Mr. Reagan with one of the severest tests of his presidency — a test that is not yet over.

It raised searching and still unanswered questions about the morality and effectiveness of the use of American military power, and dramatically re-focused slipping national attention on the intractable problems facing the U.S. in the Middle East.

It opened cracks in the usually rock-solid U.S.-Israeli relationship and, to the dismay of the White House, for the first time caused Mr. Reagan to be seriously compared with his much-maligned predecessor, Mr. Jimmy Carter. Mr. Reagan has painfully discovered, as numerous commentators have pointed out, that tough talk is easier than tough action.

The horrors of terrorism have been brought home to the American general public with unparalleled directness. The captives were not diplomats or embassy personnel, like their forerunners in Tehran. Nor had they, like the seven so-called "forgotten hostages" still held in Lebanon, gone to Beirut as a matter of choice in the first place.

They were perfectly ordinary Americans, just like those to be seen at almost any airport, with whom everyone can identify. It

was easier than ever before for millions of television viewers to imagine the same thing happening to them.

The images of the last weeks will not quickly fade: the coolness of pilot John Testrake conducting a cockpit TV interview with a gun at the back of his head; Mr. Reagan's frank admission that he had "pounded a few walls" himself; the increasingly familiar measured tones of Mr. Allyn Conwell, the hostages' Texan spokesman (who by the end sounded as if he were running for national political office); the mercurial hostage-master Mr. Nabih Berri insisting to a doubting public that he had America's best interests at heart.

The national mood — never hysterical — has for the moment turned from frustration to a mixture of heady patriotism and relief. Mr. Reagan was counted on to pull out all the stops when the hostages came home, to the accompaniment of yellow ribbons and national rejoicing, on the eve of the most patriotic of all American holidays, Independence Day, July 4.

So far, the opinion polls have shown clear majorities in support of Mr. Reagan's conduct, and the White House will do all it can to capitalise on the fact that for once it is courageous live Americans, and not flag-draped coffins, which are returning from the Middle East.

No sooner was the hostages' aircraft in the air than the White House press corps was presented with 14 colour photographs of Mr. Reagan at the helm — chairing emergency meetings at the White House, at Camp David and aboard Air Force One. In the early uncertain days, the tactic had been to portray him calmly pursuing business as usual, ostentatiously trying to avoid immersing himself in the crisis like the hapless Carter. Public feelings are still mixed. There is no dodging the cruel truth

that one American, a young navy diver, was killed by the hijackers and that the plight of the seven kidnapped Americans has taken no turn for the better. Their fate, too, has suddenly been thrust before the public eye, not least by the administration itself, which tried vainly to include them in the manoeuvrings which finally freed the 39. Mr. Reagan is much more committed now to doing something about their release as well.

While the agony of Flight 847 has come to a happy ending, it has been widely noted that the terrorists called Mr. Reagan's bluff and found few aces in his hand. The elite Delta commando force, trained to cope with just such emergencies, was unable to act, and Mr. Reagan's post-Tehran promise of "swift and effective retribution" against future terrorists has yet to materialise. His whole anti-terrorist policy, embodied in the often-repeated claim that "it will never happen again", has been found wanting.

On the plus side, the administration can claim, with at least some degree of conviction, that it has not yielded to blackmail. It believes that the public sense of outrage and fear, heightened by the mysterious destruction of Air India Flight 182, will ensure that additional resources and energy are devoted to the fight against terrorism. Passengers, for instance, will henceforth tolerate longer delays before boarding aircraft and tighter, if firesome, airport security.

But Mr. Reagan faces the inevitable dilemma of whether to retaliate — and, if so, how. If not, he risks having his bluff called once again — and there is a strong national feeling that he must at least "do something". The newspapers and TV screens have been inundated with advocates of retribution, whether in the form of bombing raids or trade and economic sanctions or both — though against precisely whom is unclear.

Both liberals and conservatives are calling for an irrevocable statement that in future the U.S. will retaliate as a matter of principle, that terrorism against Americans

can never again be "cost-free" — the only dispute being over how far innocent lives should be put at risk. Only by agreeing in advance on retaliation, maintains Lawrence Eagleburger, a former undersecretary of state, can the administration put an end to its interminable internal arguments over whether or not to strike back with military force.

Mr. Reagan is caught in the middle. He has promised that murderers of Americans will be "held accountable" and has vowed to carry the fight to the terrorists. But he has also said that to strike indiscriminately would be to drag America down to the terrorists' level.

The debate is not just about the effectiveness of reprisals — it is about American post-Vietnam morality. The U.S. rightly prides itself on its respect for human life — the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), for instance, is forbidden from assassinating even the state's worst enemies. But ironically, it is precisely that concern for human life, and particularly for American lives, that makes the U.S. so vulnerable to hijacking and terrorist demands.

In the worst moments there were those who said the U.S. should show its toughness by lashing out at Lebanon, even if it meant the death of the hostages. Many would cheer now if Mr. Reagan "took out" Beirut airport. But now that their minds are focused on the problem, the majority would almost certainly be loath to take innocent lives. There is widespread recognition that the none too accurate shelling of Lebanese villages by the massive guns of the battleship New Jersey, in 1983, was a mistake, both morally and politically.

Mr. Reagan is likely to find himself further constrained by the dramatic plea from the hostages themselves not to seek revenge but to follow the path of "justice and understanding". Nobody really knows for sure whether military retaliation would discourage, or encourage, further acts of violence against Americans.

If retaliation is Mr. Reagan's

most immediate preoccupation, it is by no means his only one. His broader Middle East peace policy is also in need of urgent attention — largely because of Syria's key role in freeing the hostages.

Seen from Washington, Syria has long been the arch-villain in the Middle East peace process — particularly in the eyes of George Shultz, the secretary of state. Mr. Shultz has never forgiven Syria for torpedoing the Lebanese-Israeli withdrawal agreement of May 17, 1983, which he regarded as his own personal achievement.

President Hafez Al Assad of Syria has demonstrated clearly that he calls the shots in Lebanon. If, as some experts believe, he now wants to start a genuine dialogue with Washington, it will be hard to ignore his wishes — particularly as he has promised, admittedly somewhat vaguely, to do his best on behalf of the remaining hostages.

Washington is still not sure of Mr. Assad's motives in rallying to help the hostages. Somehow, a way will have to be found to bolster peace efforts against what seems to be Syria's heightened influence, at a time when many Arabs are likely to have concluded that U.S. power in the region has been exposed again as ineffective.

Repair work also will be needed to U.S.-Israeli relations, despite official claims by both Washington and Israel that the two countries' alliance has never been stronger. That is certainly what the administration hopes. But many Israelis were upset by Washington's attempt to make them responsible for ending the crisis by releasing their Lebanese detainees.

Whether or not the administration egged on American public opinion, and especially American Jews, to put pressure on Israel to free its prisoners, it certainly succeeded in leaving that impression in many quarters. By late June, according to a survey in a Washington Post/ABC News opinion poll, an astonishingly high 42 per cent of Americans thought that the U.S. should distance itself from Israel to prevent further acts of terrorism against Americans in the Middle East.

That is worrying for both Israel and a U.S. administration which has been one of Israel's strongest supporters. But similar feelings have been recorded in the past, only to subside fairly rapidly. Most Washington observers believe that the damage will be relatively short-lived.

All the same, the highly publicised remarks by the hostages at their gunpoint press conference made clear they felt the Shites held by the Israelis were "hostages" too. The captive Americans' sympathy for the Shites' objectives may not prove long-lasting, but it is bound to have made at least a temporary impression on public opinion.

The often unloved American media found itself especially under fire on this count. By airing the hostages' and Mr. Berri's press conferences and interviews, the TV networks have been accused of giving the hostage-takers the sort of publicity on which terrorism feeds.

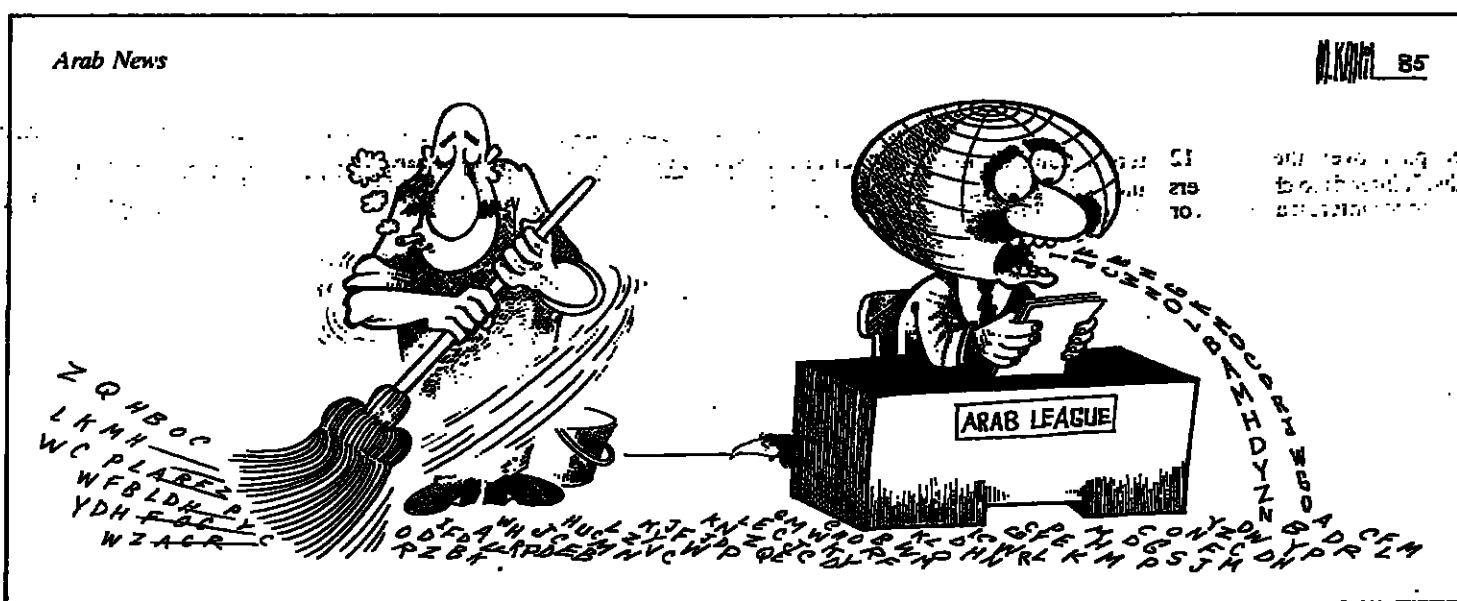
On balance, the media seem to have been given the benefit of the doubt, even if the networks were probably guilty of some lapses — of excessive coverage when nothing was really happening and rapidly running out of new terrorist experts.

You have to wonder if the networks will be sorry to see this 'hostage crisis' end. They're having such an exciting time with it," wrote Tom Shales in the Washington Post, one of the country's top TV critics.

The Media inevitably became part of its own story — but there was no evidence that people were switching off in disgust. On the contrary, polls showed that the nation was riveted to the screen.

The story, meanwhile is far from over. Mr. Reagan has not suffered the indignity of the 444-day ordeal endured by Mr. Carter — he was lucky that third parties could exert an outside influence which was not available in Iran. But, now that the hostages have been released, he faces the even more daunting task of ensuring that "it will never happen again."

— Financial Times news feature



Routine clean-up after every Beirut fight

By Samir F. Ghattas
The Associated Press

BEIRUT — Minutes after warring militias stowed away their guns after a six-hour battle in west Beirut's downtown business centre shop owners and apartment dwellers came out of hiding armed with brooms to sweep up glass and debris.

"It's become as routine as cleaning up a house after a Saturday night party," shrugged a young woman as, nearby, men changed tyres and fitted new windcreens on scores of cars peppered by bullets and shrapnel.

As the echo of rocket-propelled grenade explosions and automatic weapons fire died down ambulances were rushing casualties to hospital, joint militia patrols were on the streets supervising the lat-

est in countless ceasefires and the garbage-littered streets were once more thronged with shoppers, office workers and children at play.

At least 10 people lost their lives in this firefight, another statistical addition to the 100,000 recorded killed in a decade of civil war and sectarian strife.

The clean-up after block-to-block street clashes or long-range artillery duels has become a daily ritual in the capital, but mostly in west Beirut where two militias battle for control of the main centre. They are the Amal Shi'ite Muslim militia, whose men under Nabih Berri guarded 39 American hostages from a hijacked TWA jet in west Beirut hideouts, and the mostly Druze Progressive Socialist Party, headed by Walid Jumblatt.

Apart from the fighting, in which civilians are the main cas-

ualties, other dangers abound in west Beirut — most of its restaurants, casinos, clubs and tourist hotels long shuttered by war.

Bombers dynamite shops whose owners refuse to pay protection money. Bandits posing as militiamen hold up banks, payroll vans and people brave enough to walk alone at night. Overzealous gunmen harass corner store managers who openly sell liquor in violation of Sharia, fundamentalist Islamic Law minority groups want imposed on the nation of four million — 60 per cent Muslim, 40 per cent Christian.

By contrast, on the far fringe of mainly Christian east side across the so-called "green line" dividing Beirut lovers stroll tree-shaded avenues, families crowd sidewalk cafes, night clubs featuring disco and belly dancers throb till the

early hours of the morning.

Here, one militia — the Christian Lebanese Forces — patrols the streets unchallenged. But closer to the "green line" east Beirut share the same dangers as their western neighbours in the face of almost daily artillery feuds between militias.

The ruins of apartment blocks, sandbag ramparts offering flimsy protection for businesses and homes against 122-mm mortars and high-explosive rockets and the rumble of tanks and armoured personnel carriers through the streets are grim reminders of the conflict.

The battles across the line usually erupt at night and taper off to sporadic exchanges during the day. In the morning, children go to school, men to their jobs and women go shopping.

Recent Mexican poll shows system power

By Bernd Debusmann
Reuters

MEXICO CITY — Controversial mid-term elections in Mexico have spotlighted the power of a political system which blends democracy with one-party rule and has kept the country stable for half a century.

Amid cries of fraud from the right-wing opposition, the vast majority of seats at stake were won by the Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) which has ruled Mexico since 1929 and never lost a ballot for president, state governor or senator.

For the political right, the July 7 elections served as proof that Mexico is a dictatorship with a democratic facade. But PRI officials hailed the event as a "democratic fiesta," and said it showed the support of Mexico's 75 million people for the principles of the

1910-20 revolution. "There is a bit of truth in both views," a European diplomat in Mexico City said. "Mexico clearly is not a Western-style democracy. But it is not a totalitarian police state either."

The PRI has been the cornerstone of a political system which gives the president near-absolute power for his six-year term and depends on discreet deals with Mexico's most important interest groups, from the bureaucracy and labour unions to the private sector, the church and the army.

"The whole edifice is based on wheeling and dealing, on the ruling establishment's ability to grant patronage, on concessions, on consensus," an Asian diplomat here said. "At times, it uses strong-arm tactics and repression."

Elections, critics of the system

have merely served to give the system an image of democratic legitimacy.

The PRI's electoral successes have been based partly on the support of mass organisations, from organised labour and peasants' movements to fishing cooperatives.

With busloads of flag-waving peasants and workers taken to PRI election rallies from their places of work, the ruling party could claim it was drawing larger crowds than any of the eight opposition groups in all but a few towns during the campaign.

The elections were for seven state governors, 155 local assembly seats, all 400 members of the Lower House of Congress, and 845 municipalities throughout the country.

But attention focused on Sonora and Nuevo Leon, prosperous northern states where the con-

servative National Action Party (PAN) said the system abused its power most blatantly.

"They treated us like delinquents," Adalberto Rosas, the PAN's defeated candidate for Sonora Governor, said. "They had plainclothes police watching our homes and offices. They ordered their thugs to steal ballot boxes, they issued thousands of false voter credentials."

Fraud allegations are difficult to prove in a country where the vote-counting is controlled by the government but diplomats here said reports of irregularities in the north cast doubt over the validity of several key results.

But while PAN officials conjured up images of repression, there was evidence that such parallels ignore the peculiarities of the Mexican system and its toleration of dissenting opinion.

A dictator and former populist hero fight for Bolivian presidency

By Paul Iredale
Reuters

LA PAZ — A former military dictator and an aged populist hero are the main contenders in July's Bolivian presidential election, a battle that will decide who rules one of Latin America's poorest and most volatile nations.

The winner's prize is a country beset by strikes and unrest, unpaid foreign debts, a world record inflation rate of 3,400 per cent and a tattered economy that has shrunk 17 per cent over the past three years.

The job provides little security — Bolivia has averaged more than one coup a year since independence in 1825 and the incumbent president is quitting a year early.

The former dictator, Gen. Hugo Banzer, ruled Bolivia with an iron fist from 1971 to 1978. He has the backing of the banks and private business and is generally expected to receive most votes in the July 14 poll.

His main opponent, Victor Paz Estenssoro, has already been president twice. Now 78, Mr. Paz was the hero of the 1952 revolution that nationalised the tin mines and introduced universal suffrage and far-reaching land reform.

Western diplomats expect Gen. Banzer will take some 35 per cent of the popular vote but unless he can attract an overall 51 per cent majority, the constitution leaves the final choice of president to congress.

The vote is expected to take up to two weeks to count, so the new congress is likely to become embroiled in a week of frantic horse-trading before President Hernan Siles Zuazo hands over power on Aug. 6.

Siles Zuazo announced last November that he was cutting short his term of office by a year, following resignations from his left-wing coalition and pressure from trade unions and the opposition-dominated parliament.

Gen. Banzer's centre-right Nationalist Democratic Action (ADN) party has little chance of attracting coalition partners, while Mr. Paz, whose Revolutionary Nationalist Movement (MNR) has spawned several left-wing offshoots, is a veteran political broker and looks better placed to build a majority, Western diplomats say.

Both parties advocate an agreement with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to attract fresh capital to overcome the economic crisis, and austerity measures to stem inflation and stop financial speculation.

Ge. Banzer's popular base in the cities, where a wave of general strikes and food shortages has fanned demands for strong government.

But his authoritarian style at the head of a military government is remembered by the working classes, and there are fears that the inevitable protests that would accompany austerity measures could lead to violent confrontations.

However Mr. Paz, president in 1952 and 1960, draws most his support from the countryside, where he is remembered for the land reforms he introduced after the 1952 revolution.

Although he now calls himself a centrist, Western diplomats believe his leftist credentials would allow him to introduce austerity measures with less opposition from organised labour.

But any concerted effort to put Bolivia's economy back on its feet, with the sacrifices that would imply, is highly likely to provoke a reaction from the unions.

The present government's latest attempt at an economic rescue package, an 86 per cent devaluation of the peso and price hikes of up to 400 per cent on petrol, postage and electricity on Feb. 9, provoked a 16-day general strike, when 10,000 miners invaded the capital and hurled sticks of dynamite on the streets.

Juan Lechin, veteran leader of the Bolivian Workers Confederation (COB), told Reuters that none of the major parties would protect the interests of the people. "The only alternative is an armed revolution," he said.

The new president will also have to face up to Bolivia's foreign bank creditors who have received no payments on the country's \$825 million commercial debt since March 1984.

Mr. Siles Zuazo stopped making payments under pressure from COB, although the country is up to date on repayments to creditor governments and international financial institutions, which together hold the rest of its \$3.7 billion foreign debt.

Diplomats here say that despite the sharp contraction in the economy over the past three years, they are confident a new government could turn the corner in several months with austerity measures and an agreement with the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

They said agricultural production has recovered from a slump and was back to the levels of three years ago, while Bolivia's major exports — minerals and natural gas — would benefit if world prices rose later in the year.

سكينة الجليل

Murder, culture and soap on 6

By J.H. Boteler

WELL, THAT'S the last time I try to make the Wednesday evening deadline. Last week, there I was, safe and snug, another article tucked away to bed, and having made what seemed the fairly reasonable prediction of a McEnroe/Lendl Wimbledon final. I got home, switched on, and found both of them getting carried around centre court in the most unceremonious fashion by a stern South African and a laughing Frenchman respectively, and only one of those made it through to Sunday. Ah well, it all makes for welcome variety, and I can live with the odd duff forecast. What is more serious is that I was tempted into the grave sin of previewing some programmes that I had not in fact seen. Not only did I get into a horrible tangle over "Fox's Mystery Theatre," (Which I will return to later), but I got "Jesse" (Wednesday, 10:15), hopelessly wrong. I mean, I was right in that it's basically another slap/bang/crash show, but the lady in question does not live in a swish apartment but in a log cabin up in the mountains. She also has a caring and concerned mum, something fairly serious having happened to her husband, but this last has the merit of leaving the field clear for Alex, the precinct detective, whose favourite method of catching criminals appears to be running them over. Last week this programme also suggested a new sociological breakthrough by America. One of the baddies was a wife-beater, who took time off from the rough stuff in driving a motor-home. A couple of months ago there was a feature film about this loathsome practice of wife-battering and the lead role, featured an individual who went out one day, bought a motor-home, and then came back and started bouncing his wife off the walls. The moral seems to be fairly clear: beware of men driving motor homes. One programme I did forecast correctly was "Flying Shakespeare" (Wednesday, 9:10). From a two-minute preview snippet I deduced that this was likely to be a very self-indulgent exercise, and I was right. John Barton is, no doubt, a very

fine Shakespearean director, but put him in front of a camera and he becomes a cross between a fulsome friendly uncle figure and a condescending toad. "What can we tell about the use of that word?" he asks with a grin. A hand shoots up in the back row: "Please Sir/John, we see how Shakespeare was so brilliant in..." blah, blah, etc. Apart from this programme being a sort of animated English literature criticism course, it is also frightfully grovelling. It will insist on putting old Will up on a very high pedestal indeed. Take the first week, where his work was compared to other drama of the period. The comparison chosen was Marlowe's "Tamburlaine", and Will came off a handsome winner, which is hardly surprising, since "Tamburlaine" is one of the most tedious pieces of drivel ever penned. (Great poetry, but as drama, forget it). What would have been more instructive would have been to look at other works by Marlowe, such as "Doctor Faustus", or "The Jew of Malta", or "The White Devil", and "The Duchess of Malfi" by Webster. These are all great plays, and while a comparison would have shown that Shakespeare would have avoided the erroneous conclusion that drama began and ended with him. Also, I am highly suspicious of the seemingly informal approach adopted by Mr. Barton and his wide-eyed and willing players. If you study the credits at the end of the programme you will find, not only a make-up artist, which is perhaps forgivable, but also someone in charge of costumes. Costumes? Have someone actually chosen Mr. Barton's attire? Perhaps so; perhaps the RSC has a whole rack of utterly shapeless turgid and hand-woven Harris tweed ties; also jeans, shirts, and informal dresses, for the use of workshop actors. This programme, however, is instructive and interesting, but it needs to loosen up considerably. Also, out of the recognised greats taking part — Dame Peggy Ashcroft, Judi Dench, and Iain McKellen,

only the last has so far appeared. Perhaps he was lost and wondering about the studios when he was suddenly smothered and borne off by Mr. Barton, but at least he is practically the only person present who is talking any sense. Not only does he actually know something about theatre and its history, but he also has the delightful habit of suddenly asking Mr. Barton, "What exactly do you mean by that last remark, John?", whereupon Mr. Barton splutters, hums and haws, and looks very confused indeed, forsooth. This week the programme is supposed to study set speeches and soliloquies in Shakespeare, and will therefore escape from the infuriating format of taking the odd line or couplet out of context.

Another programme that pretends to be utterly informal and spontaneous is "River Journeys" (Sunday, 9:10). It also shares with "Shakespeare" a false and misleading pretension to an understanding of literature in its wider sense. Last week Michael Wood, sailing down the Congo, compared it at any and every opportunity with Joseph Conrad's "Heart of Darkness". He kept on saying things like: "And will eventually this river revert back to the dark and violence, the primeval swamp, that Conrad foretold?" Dear Michael: Not only is this disgustingly condescending and downright rude, but you have also got completely the wrong end of the stick about Conrad. He was talking, not about the degeneration of a continent or a river, but about the degeneration and emptiness of the human soul. As if Mr. Wood's attitude and incorrect assumptions were not enough, we were treated to his pathetic attempts at appearing "au naturel".

"Here I am, lost and alone, and look, oh my gosh, the riverboat is stopping just for little old me." "All those chickens, just for me, alone, wide-eyed and wandering the great monster of the dark continent?" Give it a rest, Michael. You, and your cameraman, and his assistant, the sound recordist, lighting assistant, and the unit director. (And, probably, make-up and costumes). No wonder the locals were so kind. Faced with a small army of BBC technicians, all

probably waving fists of cash about — (hang on a minute: the BBC? Fists? No, better make that loads of loose change) — they would do anything required. "Whatever you want, just go away". This week's episode is a fragment with danger, also. The journey down the Rio San Francisco in Brazil is being conducted by Germaine Greer. Yes, the very same. Authoress of "The Female Eunuch" and strident feminist of the seventies. Don't worry, I'm not about to sound off about equal rights or anything, but I do not want Ms. Greer to start comparing the river or its inhabitants to the female spirit or any such nonsense. After learning Portuguese in three weeks, (that's what she claims), she journeys down the river and explores the north-eastern region of Brazil at the same time. Her transport is a vintage paddlesteamer making its last voyage from Juazeiro to Pira Pora before becoming a tourist attraction. ("Germaine Greer slept here"). The boat reaches its destination, but only just. Ms. Greer is less optimistic about the future for the people who live in Brazil's north-east. Having ranted away about this programme, it is only fair to admit that it can be fascinating and is also stunningly photographed. Also, one can always turn the sound down.

Elsewhere, the highlight of the week, at least for this viewer, has got to be "Cover Her Face" (Tuesday, 9:10). Boy oh boy, but this is going to be a ding-a-ling of a weekend house party. Everyone loathes everyone else, and deathly threats are being tossed around as so much confetti. We also have the promised second staff. At least, I think we do. Miss Liddle, the supposed embezzler was shown prone and unmoving, surrounded by a heap of Mr. Maxie's private suicide aids, the little green pills. But if she is dead, what is she doing making telephone calls? Assuming she is dead, and discounting the possibility of supernatural interference, we are left with two possibilities. One, someone is impersonating her, for reasons as yet undisclosed; or two, we are witnessing a particularly cheap form of attention grabber to make us switch on for the next episode,

where it will transpire that the call is not from Miss Liddle, but about her. All this apart, who did the deed? I think we can safely leave out Mr. Maxie, and also the assorted Ingridis, Alexis, and other Basque terrorists and political subversives and drug pushers. All thoroughly nasty pieces of work no doubt but not, I venture, Germaine to the main issue of murder. This piece of basic pruning leaves us with just about everyone. I think that this year's Church fete is going to be rather a muted affair.

Which brings me to another victim of my early writing up of last week's article, and that is "Fox's Mystery Theatre" (Thursday, 10:15) or rather "Murder She Wrote" since the former has been delayed by the latter. Apparently, or so I am told, JTV suddenly found three episodes of "Murder", and so are showing them now. I can just imagine it: some brave soul industriously hiding batches of tapes around the studio, which some other equally industrious, but rather more misguided, individual then recovers.

What is annoying is that not only that we were looking forward to a brand new series, only to be disappointed, but also — as experience has shown — during each three-month programme cycle some series and a couple of weeks before the cycle does, and the need for the odd filler programme arises. A task surely admirably suited for any errand episodes of Aunt Jessica, not only because we are witnessing a plague of murder stories on JTV, (in recent weeks we have had "Murder She Wrote", "Cover Her Face" (Tuesday, 9:10). Boy oh boy, but this is going to be a ding-a-ling of a weekend house party. Everyone loathes everyone else, and deathly threats are being tossed around as so much confetti. We also have the promised second staff. At least, I think we do. Miss Liddle, the supposed embezzler was shown prone and unmoving, surrounded by a heap of Mr. Maxie's private suicide aids, the little green pills. But if she is dead, what is she doing making telephone calls? Assuming she is dead, and discounting the possibility of supernatural interference, we are left with two possibilities. One, someone is impersonating her, for reasons as yet undisclosed; or two, we are witnessing a particularly cheap form of attention grabber to make us switch on for the next episode,

and in future weeks we can settle down to doses of madness and horror.

Help, here I am, thousands of words on, and I've only touched on about four programmes. OK, so what else is there. Well, for a start, there are the comedy slots — all at 8:30 (Sunday), has "Rhoda", — lonely and dissatisfied women making the best of life, which, with the addition of a couple of kids, is repeated on Tuesday in "Kate and Allie".

Monday has "Who's the Boss" while Thursday clocks in with "No Place Like Home", surely the ultimate answer to every population controllers prayers. "You want children? Then watch this programme and you'll soon change your mind". Wednesday has "Three's Company" (definitely post-Christie) while Friday entertains with the laughing dwarf, Ronnie Corbett, in "Sorry".

"Charles Endell" continues to try to shore up his tottering reputation at 9:10 on Monday, and at 10:15 on the same night "Widows" continue to tug it out, as do "MacGruder and Lloyd" — albeit in a more sedate fashion, — on Friday at the same time. The heart strings are pulled by "Tenko" earlier that night (9:10), when the jolly band find that life in Singapore is not much of an improvement on the prison camp, and deep wells of passion are plumbd once again on Thursday at 10:15 by "Killer of Lost Loves". Dear old Cary Maxwell is an absolute wow when it comes to other people's emotional trumas, but as far as Daisy is concerned, he is as blind as a bat. Perhaps she should hire him. "Mr. Maxwell, I love my employer deeply, but he regards me as part of the furniture". Cary could then, having racked himself down, spend long hours in front of the mirror convincing himself to do the decent thing. There is also, of course, "Love Boat" (Sunday, 10:15). Part two of a double header, no less. So far we have a senator who is deeply in love with a woman who owns a change of casinos. This is considered bad form by his assistant, who also has got himself involved in an ongoing love affair situation, (and surfaced in Cary Maxwell's domain a week or so ago, and is therefore obviously the resident Hollywood

dumb heart-throb for use in soap operas). Also traipsing around the streets of Hong Kong are Gene Kelly, (how are the mighty fallen) and his newfound love. They are being tailed collectively by two of the ships crew dressed up as Humphrey Bogart and his Siamese twin and a brace of sinister baddies who indulge in such weighty dialogue as "Find subject. Kill". "Ugga, ugga, boss, I do". The captain's daughter is suffering loads of remorse of having fallen in love with her best friend's man, and all in all everything is as it should be on this floating paradise.

Which brings us, in a very tortuous and roundabout fashion, to tonight's line-up, which consists of an episode of "Vietnam" at 8:30.

I have given up trying to predict which episode; just rest assured that it will be full of death and destruction, and abject lessons in the price paid for political extremism, and man's inhumanity to man. At 10:15 there is the first of the weeks two feature films; the other is at the same time of Tuesday, and is as yet an unknown quantity. "The Snows of Kilimanjaro". A hunter lies wounded in Africa and whilst waiting for help looks back over his life and loves. A big-name director, (Darryl F. Zanuck) and a big-name cast (Gregory Peck, Ava Gardner and Leo G. Carroll, to name but a few), perform a hat-check job on Hemingway. Of course, none of this should be on tonight at all. We should be joining in with the rest of the world, (live transmission across the globe, projected audience of a billion plus), and watching the biggest rock concert ever, live from Wembley stadium, USA, and all the big names in pop music combine to raise money for the famine victims of Ethiopia in another Band Aid project. I mean, even the who have reformed for this one. (OK, admittedly, they'd reform for your granny's birthday party, but the spirit is right). One of the biggest charity bashes of all time, and what are we likely to get? Some failed rock-drek treading the European TV circuit. But then again, look on the bright side. JTV might buy the tapes of the Band Aid gig, and we'll have enough material to last us until Christmas!

Impressionist art makes big money

An over-saturated market of impressionists, Old Masters, jewels and oriental works of art is working auctioneers. Latest moves by Sotheby's to sell works of art effectively put the auction house into banking. Anthony Thorneycroft, in London, explains.

THE HOTTEST ticket in New York recently was not for a Broadway musical, or for the Met, but for a seat at Sotheby's sale of the Impressionist pictures collected by the late Florence J. Gould, daughter-in-law of Jay Gould, the railway owner, and herself for many years the social ruler of the French Riviera.

Sotheby's squeezed 2,500 people into its purpose-built saleroom on York Avenue, but having to disappoint more than 8,000 others needed all the finesse of its staff.

Above the auction floor, in discreet boxes, were buyers who wanted to see the action while making their bids privately by phone. Among them were some of the 200 "first-time" buyers of Impressionist art who Sotheby's had unearthed during its \$1 million marketing campaign for the Gould sale.

It had secured the sale from the trustees of the Gould estate in fierce competition with Christie's because it had promised a heavy-weight promotional campaign which would bring in new buyers. For five weeks 3,000 potential buyers were wooed and dined at private previews in Tokyo, Lausanne and London, and the catalogue for the sale was a work of art in itself: it costs \$50.

Some picture dealers think that Sotheby's efforts were essential because the Gould collection, put together from the early 1960s mainly with the advice of David Wildenstein, a dealer, contains few masterpieces although the paintings are pretty and accessible. Sotheby's could not rely on museums to bid, nor the more sophisticated dealers: hence the need for new buyers.

In the event, Sotheby's sold all but three of the 55 lots. The auction total of \$32,617,750 was a record for a single-owner collection sold at one session, and one of the pictures, the wheatfield seen by Van Gogh from the room at the mental asylum in St. Remy, set a record price for an Impressionist painting of \$9.9 million. Only two more bids would have taken it above the recently established record for any picture of \$8.1 million (\$10 million) set in London.

Behind the marketing campaign for Gould can be seen the management style of the new owners of Sotheby's. In the autumn of 1983 the auction house was rescued from a bad financial patch by a bid from Alfred Taubman, a multi-millionaire estate developer from Detroit. He has brought in a new young team whose initiatives have sent shock waves through the traditionally conservative art market. Not only are the rich of the world sedulously courted — with checks made with their bank managers to ensure that they were worth at least \$3 million — but they were offered financial terms quite new to the salerooms.

Sotheby's and Christie's have both sometimes advanced cash to sellers of works of art before auctions, but for Gould, Sotheby's was prepared to negotiate special terms, accepting just a half of the selling price down with the remainder paid over the next 12 months. It intends to charge users of this service interest at prime, or more usually, prime plus 2 per cent. In effect this represents a move into the banking business.

Christie's is not keen on the idea, but is unlikely to refuse to discuss the possibility of following suit. The market has boomed in the last two years, mainly on the back of the U.S. economy. Last year, Sotheby's increased its world sales by 42 per cent to \$477 million (\$593.4 million), while Christie's rose by 43 per cent to \$373 million (\$464 million). For both salerooms New York became their biggest centre, overtaking the long-entrenched position of London.

There are worries that the market may not be able to absorb all those Impressionist and Old Master Paintings, jewels and oriental works of art. Hence the credit terms to encourage dealers, museums and private buyers to buy now but pay, in part, later.

Hence also the search for new collectors. There comes a time in the life of most rich men and women when they start to collect as an investment, to impress their friends, or because they feel the need to broaden their horizons.

And, as new collectors buy, so new collectors sell. The oil industry is in poor shape at the moment and significantly, in May, both Sotheby's and Christie's are disposing of art collections assembled in the past decades by millionaires. The orientalist pictures bought by Coral Petroleum came under the hammer on May 22 and should realise over \$8 million while earlier Christie's is selling the finest group of Old Mas-

ters to come on to the market in the U.S. all bought in the last 10 years or so by S. T. Fee, an Oklahoma oil man.

These two sales are important because it is generally considered unwise to offer works of art to the market within a few years of purchase. If these pictures do well, it will give new collectors confidence that art can be a quickly realised and appreciating asset.

The Gould sale was bullish — but only just. The total was close to Sotheby's most optimistic forecasts, but 23 of the pictures sold at prices below their pre-sale lower price forecast as against just 18 that exceeded their pre-sale high estimate.

If demand for works of art does become more selective, the battle between Sotheby's and Christie's for important collections will become even more intense. Both salerooms have invested heavily in the recent past, especially in improving their facilities in New York.

As long as the United States remains the engine room for the world economy, so more and more works of art will find their way across the Atlantic. London still leads in its expertise, among dealers as well as saleroom staff; it is still considered a more mature and knowing market, less subject to volatility than the U.S. But if New York does catch a cold there will be no immunisation in London. Fortunately, the U.S. remains optimistic. There is a report that by next year there will be a million millionaires in the U.S. Among them there should be enough collectors to keep the salerooms busy, even if not quite at the pace of the last two years — Financial Times news feature.

And yet, quickly abandoning violent colours and a harsh composition for a stricter art, Henri Matisse was rapidly able to master the new visual repertoire which the art of engraving and drawing, generally considered as minor, constituted for him, and which is its driving force.

It is in order to compensate for this omission somewhat that two of the biggest art galleries in Paris have simultaneously devoted their wall-space to some very fine examples of the painter's engravings. The Sagot-Le Garrec gallery in particular, makes it possible to follow Matisse in the development of his artistic research from the moment he abandoned the "fauve" period to discover a more precise construction, a taste for large rhythmic compositions of very linear forms, the art of strokes evoking forms (in particular female) which, by their intentional austerity, considerably distanced him from his "fauve" beginnings.

As his art became stricter, it enabled him to find his first admirers. The drawings turned into engravings which he brought back from his travels to Algeria and Morocco contributed greatly to the success which marked the twenties, the period of the famous Odisques, of typical oriental inspiration. From there, he moved towards an alliance of sumptuousness in colours and a sparseness in lines, which from then on was to characterise his work.

In 1930, he stayed in Tahiti and finished his big composition entitled "La Danse" for an American patron in 1933. Sculpture and above all engraving attracted him more and more. It is all to the credit of the Sagot-Le Garrec Gallery, for a prestigious exhibition owing nothing to commercial profit, for making it possible to discover or rediscover the nudes and portraits in which the form is magnificently enclosed by a faultless line. As he said "The problem is to find the harmony between the drawing, the colours and the feeling". This is most evidently and agreeably borne out in the two recent exhibitions. (The other exhibition was more particularly devoted to Matisse's paintings, by the Maeght Gallery). Matisse succeeded, judging by the hundred or so carefully chosen engravings, of which he admitted "what interests him the most is neither still-life, nor landscape, it is the human form". And what better technique, than engraving, whether it is lithography or dry-point, to render the sensuality which emanates from the shape of the female face or body, in the form of a line. But what a line — Radio France International.



Paris honours Matisse

By Raymond Paccard

HENRI MATISSE is universally known for his paintings, which, at the beginning of the century, made him the leader of "fauvism", a movement characterised by the use of vivid colours, inspired by impressionism born a few years earlier. He is also known by tourists and the public at large for decorating the Chapel of the Rosary in Vence (near Nice in the South of France) to which he devoted the last three years of his life. He is less well known for his engraving.

And yet, quickly abandoning violent colours and a harsh composition for a stricter art, Henri Matisse was rapidly able to master the new visual repertoire which the art of engraving and drawing, generally considered as minor, constituted for him, and which is its driving force.

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Bangladeshi girls on sale in Karachi 'showrooms'

By Ibrahim Khan
Reporter

KARACHI — In dimly-lit huts smelling of kerosene lamps and the sweat of greedy men, buyers crowd round to haggle over the latest batch of Bangladeshi girls smuggled to Karachi for sale.

Pimps, brothel owners and slick "marriage brokers" compete for the prettiest of the terrified girls, offering up to 10,000 rupees (\$625) for slim, fair-skinned virgins barely into their teens.

Peasants who think buying a wife will be cheaper than paying a servant are left to choose among the rest in the mud-and-straw slum "showrooms" in north-eastern Karachi. They pay only a few hundred rupees for girls passed over because they have dark complexions. All are over 20 or have already been raped.

The steady trickle of Bangladeshi seeking jobs in Pakistan — more than 50,000 have arrived since the former East Pakistan became independent in 1971 — has spawned a trade only now coming to public notice in this port of seven million people.

"The sale of Bengali girls in the flesh markets of the country is now considered to pose a serious threat to drug trading as the most profitable illegal activity," the Karachi Evening Star said recently.

"Both of these rackets involve 'big names' and both seem to thrive under police protection," said the newspaper.

The police chief of Sind province says: "These criminals are not being protected by the police — they are dealt with according to the law".

In June police smashed a six-man smuggling ring, one of the many said to be operating, and accused it of selling 500 girls.

The police say they have no idea how many girls seeking a better life have been sold into prostitution or virtual domestic slavery here.

About 100 girls arrested in raids are now in Karachi central jail and a women's home called Darulaman.

The Sind province government, based here, has just announced it will set up special police squads to stop Bangladeshis from entering Pakistan illegally through the deserts on the border with India.

According to Abdul Rauf, deputy director of the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA), "some girls come alone and others with their families to Pakistan, where wages are at least twice as high as

in Bangladesh. Many Bengali men from Bangladesh are servants and cooks in well-to-do Karachi homes.

Many of the Bangladeshis are brought in by agents who tour villages charging up to 5,000 taka (\$185) to sneak them across India into Pakistan, where they promise jobs and a respectable marriage.

Indian police arrested about 50 Bangladeshis near Amritsar in February as they were travelling illegally to Pakistan. Indian villagers killed six Bangladeshis they caught sneaking towards the border in January.

Karachi newspapers have written about the trade in girls for about two years. But it became a public issue only last month, when seven policemen in Hyderabad, 150 kilometres north of here, were charged with raping and selling a Bengali woman whose husband they had arrested for illegal entry into Pakistan.

One of the seven has been arrested. The six others, and colleagues who fear they could also be hauled in, are still in hiding. The victim has not yet been found.

On June 9, police raided a "showroom" and found 13 girls being prepared for a line-up before potential buyers. The arrests that night led to the smashing of the six-man ring which police said had sold 500 girls for between 1,000 and 3,000 rupees (\$60 and \$180) each.

According to the Karachi Star, all said they had been brought by agents through Kasur "with the active connivance of the border police".

A 16-year-old from Dhaka named Shaheena Parveen told police she had paid 3,000 taka (\$110) to a smuggler who tortured her on arrival and allowed her to be raped, the Star said.

Another woman, Sajida, said she came here with her second husband, who abandoned her after she paid 5,000 taka (\$185) to a smuggler to find her a job.

Unable to speak Urdu and ashamed of their fate, many of the girls have been reluctant to contact police to seek safety.

One, Hasina Begum, did contact police recently after bearing a child in a local maternity home. She helped them track down the man she said sold her once in Lahore for 10,000 rupees (\$625) and later, after she had been raped, for 5,000 rupees (\$310).

The man was also charged with selling two other girls he had brought from Bangladesh with Hasina. They have yet to be found.

'Yetis' still exist for Chinese officials

By Anthony Baker
Reporter

ZHANGMU, Tibet — Superstitious Tibetan villagers living under Mount Everest say they have not spotted a yeti or "abominable snowman" for generations, but Chinese officials believe they have nabbed two in the last 30 years.

"In 1979 two of my colleagues managed to grab one of them just across the way." Trade official Guo Shenbao told Reuters in Zhangmu, a bustling town on the Tibet-Nepal border.

And during the early 1950s an army frontier guard mistook one for a prostitute and tried to arrest it, Guo said in an interview.

The mysterious Yeti seized the world's imagination during the drive by foreign climbers to scale Mount Everest between the 1920s and 1950s, when Sherpa porters recounted local legends about

haired wildmen lurking in the mountains.

No conclusive scientific evidence has proved the creature exists but Guo, an educated man who has worked in Tibet for 10 years, says he knows it does.

In 1979, he and two other Chinese officials were living in a hillside hut while they did compulsory part-time farm work.

Guo had to go home that night, but his two friends were asleep in the flimsy hut when one felt a hand on his face.

"He thought it was his friend playing a joke and sleepily tried to push the hand away," recounted Guo, 35, deputy chief of the border trade office's foreign affairs department here.

"Then he realised it was furry," he added.

Calling to his friend for help, the official wrestled the hairy, chest-high creature to the ground. They tied it up and went back to sleep.

In the morning they found it had escaped.

But how could they have caught such a rare beast and then casually dozed off?

Guo is not surprised. "We were tired out by the unaccustomed physical labour, and we were used to catching various wild animals like birds, monkeys and bears."

His friends were too exhausted to see the significance of their catch and only realised it in the morning.

But the two, who have since moved back to China's inner provinces, were sure even in the gloom that the beast was not a monkey or a black bear, which it slightly resembled, Guo said.

The earlier encounter happened in the 1950s when People's Liberation Army troops had just begun to patrol Zhangmu, where a spectacular valley descends from the arid Tibetan plateau into the

moist, forested hills of Nepal.

A Guard saw a figure with long hair approaching his post. He assumed it was a prostitute sneaking in from Nepal and dropped his rifle to try and arrest her, Guo said.

He seized the figure in the darkness, feeling what seemed to be a fur coat, and dragged it towards the guardhouse. But it broke away down a steep gorge and the footprints, found in the morning, were not those of a human, Guo added.

Zhangmu's Tibetan residents, light torches at night to keep the wildmen from molesting cattle. But in a village on the arid plateau under Everest, villagers said there had been no sightings since the time of their grandfathers.

"They were taller than a man... we haven't heard anything about them recently," a former Buddhist monk said.

Australian fast bowlers cause England collapse

NOTTINGHAM, England (R) — Australia stunningly restored their ailing fortunes when they caused a collapse in which England's last six wickets crashed for 40 on the second day of the third cricket test Friday.

England, seemingly on course for a monumental first innings total at 416 for four, were jolted by fast bowlers Geoff Lawson and Craig McDermott and slumped to 456 all out.

Openers Graeme Wood and Andrew Hilditch sustained the revival by putting on 87, their best start of the six-match series in which the teams are level 1-1. Australia, 94 for one at the close, needed a further 163 to avoid the follow-on.

The touring team transformed the shape of the game in the second session after England, inspired by captain David Gower's masterly 166, initially continued to take advantage of a mild Trent Bridge pitch.

Lawson, who was rewarded for a stout-hearted effort with five for 103, and McDermott triggered the slump by sharing four wickets in 11 deliveries.

England's decline — the last eight wickets went for 98 — was completed by leg spinner Bob Holland and Lawson, who had five wickets in a test innings for the 10th time in his 31st test.

There was scarcely a hint of such a turnaround as England, 279 for two overnight, continued to make Australia's four-man attack toil Friday morning.

Gower, who resumed on 107, and Gatting, with 53, emerged from a watchful start to treat the

second new ball with disdain as they extended their third wicket partnership to 187.

Left-hander Gower played with even greater authority than on Thursday. He drove and cut handsomely and played fluently off his legs to pass his previous highest test score against Australia of 114.

Gower's stand with Gatting, who played a subdued role on Friday, ended when England's captain drove Holland and the bowler deflected the ball into the stumps with the non-striker out of his ground. Gatting made 74.

Medium-pace Simon O'Donnell gave Australia further respite when he had Gower caught behind by Wayne Phillips from a ball that lifted and left him slightly. The left-hander faced 282 deliveries and hit 17 fours.

England, 365 for four at that stage, looked set to make Australia suffer further as Ian Botham launched his innings with typically powerful blows.

But in mid-afternoon the bal-

ance tilted sharply, with Lawson striking the first blow by having Allan Lamb lbw for 17 with a delivery that kept low.

The first ball of the next over accounted for Botham, who skied a drive against McDermott and was caught off a leading edge by O'Donnell for 38.

McDermott accelerated the decline by having Paul Downton superbly caught first ball by a diving Greg Ritchie at square leg. And when Lawson dispatched Amie Sidebottom for two on his test debut, England had crumbled from 416 for four to 419 for eight.

Brief resistance by left-arm spinner Phil Edmunds was ended when he was bowled round his legs for 12 by Holland, while Lawson wrapped up the innings when Paul Allott edged him to Allan Border at second slip.

Left-hander Wood and vice-captain Hilditch easily eclipsed their previous best opening stand in the series — 23 in the first test — before Hilditch was lbw for 47 pushing half forward to Allott.

Wood, whose 38 not out followed a total of only 31 in his previous four test innings, and nightwatchman Holland negotiated the final phase of another eventful day in the enthralling ashes battle.

Lesotho bans All Blacks team

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa (AP) — The Lesotho government has barred the New Zealand All Blacks rugby team from visiting Lesotho during their tour of South Africa starting this month, the South African Press Association reported Friday.

SAPA quoted an unnamed Lesotho government source as

saying a South African travel agency sought to book the All Blacks into a hotel in Maseru, Lesotho's capital, for one night during a break in their playing schedule in Bloemfontein late in July. It said hotel reservations were made successfully but that Lesotho authorities banned the visit.

Wilander advances at U.S. Pro Championships

BROOKLINE, Massachusetts (R) — Top seed Mats Wilander, fresh from a disappointing showing at Wimbledon, scored an easy 6-1, 6-2 win over fellow Swede Stefan Eriksson Thursday night to reach the quarterfinals of the \$265,000 U.S. Pro tennis championships.

"I'm regaining much of my confidence after losing in the first round at Wimbledon," said Wilander, who played exceptionally well from the baseline.

In other third-round matches, fifth-seeded Henrik Sundstrom of Sweden and eighth seed Libor Pimek of Czechoslovakia scored victories as did unheralded tee-

nager Bruno Oresar of Yugoslavia.

Sundstrom battled back to beat American Jimmy Brown 6-7, (5-7) 6-3, 6-1. Pimek defeated Tim Wilkison of the U.S. 4-6, 6-1, 6-2 and Oresar ousted Roberto Arguello of Argentina 6-3, 6-2.

Oresar, who scored three qualifying victories to earn his way into the tournaments main draw, ousted seventh-seeded American Jimmy Arias on Wednesday.

"I'm surprising myself," the 18-year-old Oresar said. "I was mentally strong. I don't think I'm playing great. I just realized I can play against these guys."

Under 14s banned from professional tennis

BARCELONA, Spain (R) — The International Tennis Federation (ITF) Thursday banned players under the age of 14 from playing in professional tournaments from January 1, 1986.

At their annual meeting, the ITF decided that players aged 14 and over would be allowed eight tournaments a year, four of which can be played on the main circuit. At 15, players can compete in 12 events, eight on the main circuit, and the limits are lifted at 16.

The ITF also decided to end international competitions for players under 12, and Philippe Cha-

trier of France, who was re-elected president, said: "We hope to raise this to age 14."

Young players already competing in major tournaments will not be affected by the new rules.

In another move, the ITF decided unanimously to lobby for all players to take part in the Olympics without age discrimination, though this will require approval by the Olympic committee which meets in October 1986.

The federation also established an African group for the Davis Cup to include Kenya, Nigeria, Senegal and Libya.

Becker honoured by hometown

LEIMEN, West Germany (R) — The town of Leimen buzzed to the name of Boris Becker on Friday as more than 10,000 cheering well-wishers jammed the streets to welcome home their most famous son.

A volley of musket shots rang out in Becker's honour as the 17-year-old tennis champion arrived to a rapturous reception in Leimen's packed town hall square. Becker's return from his

history-making victory at Wimbledon last Sunday lent a tumultuous carnival air to this town of 17,000, near Heidelberg, whose best known product until the ginger-haired teenager's triumph in the men's singles was cement.

Crowds more than a dozen deep thronged the square in bright sunshine, whooping, cheering and waving blue and white flags to the accompaniment of a fanfare of trumpets as Becker appeared on the town hall balcony.

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AHLI VS. WIHDAT: Basem Taam, Wihdat's goalkeeper saves his net a sure ball sent by Ahli's striker Amer Muneeb (in white shirt) at a friendly match the two teams played at Amman Sports Stadium Friday in honour of Ahli's retiring international player Mohammad Natar.

Wihdat lost the match 1-0 (0-0).

The match was patronized by Minister of Communications Mubeen Hussaini and was also attended by Minister of Youth Elsham Sharari. Ahli's goal was scored by Maher Abu Hileh in the 58th minute (Photo by Majed Kamal)

'Iceman' McCrory melts ounces in sunny Riviera for Sunday's fight

PARIS (R) — Milton 'Iceman' McCrory, melting off a few excess ounces on the sunny Riviera, defends his World Boxing Council (WBC) welterweight title for the fourth time against Panama's Carlos Trujillo in Monaco on Sunday night (2100 GMT).

It is McCrory's second working visit to Europe this year following his last successful title defence in Paris in March when he outboxed

and outpointed U.S. champion Pedro Vilela.

McCrory, who has held the title for nearly two years, could line himself up for a unification bout against World Boxing Association (WBA) champion Don Curry, who is in Monaco for the fight along with the promoter Bob Arum.

Curry fought in the Mediterranean principality last Sep-

tember, destroying Italian challenger Nino la Rocca in six rounds, and will attend Sunday's fight on boxing's inaugural night at the new Louis II stadium.

Both McCrory and Trujillo are working out on the other side of the Italian border, the champion in San Remo and the challenger further down the coast in Laigueglia.

Belgian minister blames English society for soccer riot

BRUSSELS (R) — Belgian Interior Minister Charles-Ferdinand Nothomb, fighting for his political survival, made a stinging attack on English society Friday over the May 29 Brussels European Cup final soccer riot in which 38 fans died.

In a 40-minute speech at the start of a parliamentary debate on the disaster, Nothomb, under strong pressure to resign over security failures at the Heysel stadium, blamed almost everyone except himself.

He reserved his harshest words for the English, "responsible for this calamity for the victims and for our country, whom he accused of having long condoned the hooliganism which led to the fatal Brussels rampage by Liverpool supporters."

"Today, I will speak out severely about the collective res-

ponsibility of English society which tolerates this violence, which accepts it, which tries to channel it without wanting to eliminate it," he declared.

"A certain number of clubs accept this violence as a part of the sporting spectacle and even of their club's trade mark."

Nothomb's attack, making no reference to Britain's recent tough measures to fight soccer hooliganism, appeared aimed primarily at deflecting criticism of his own performance from the Socialist opposition and many government parliamentarians.

His speech was conspicuously not applauded by the Liberal deputies on the government benches.

The Socialists have put down a motion of no confidence in the minister but they may be outflanked by a general motion of

support for government policies when the vote comes, probably Saturday.

Political sources said Prime Minister Wilfried Martens was determined that the aftermath of the Heysel disaster should not bring down his cabinet, in which Nothomb is one of four deputy premiers, five months before a general election.

A report by a parliamentary inquiry, on which Friday's debate was based, says British fans caused the deaths when they charged Italian Juventus supporters.

But it also says serious errors by the Belgian and European soccer authorities and the paramilitary gendarmerie contributed to the tragedy and concludes that Nothomb must be considered politically responsible for shortcomings in security.

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LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Friday.

One sterling	1.3820/30	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3520/25	Canadian dollars
	2.9010/30	West German marks
	3.2655/85	Swiss francs
	2.4200/30	Dutch guilders
	58.35/45	French francs
	8.8200/8300	Belgian francs
	1874/1879	Italian lire
	241.83/93	Japanese yen
	8.4425/4525	Swedish crowns
	8.4125/4225	Norwegian crowns
	10.4300/4400	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	314.70/315.20	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Share prices drifted lower on lack of interest as the anticipated cut in U.K. bank base rates failed to materialise. Dealers said. At 1430 GMT the FTSE 100 was down 12.6 at 1,225.8.

Johnson Matthey ended 12p higher at 95 after full year results and a forecast of continuing progress in the current year. Britoil was 5p off at 211 after 218 following interim figures.

Government bonds held steady with gains of around 1/2 point at the longer end largely on the strength of sterling.

Gold and North American were mixed.

Among leaders ICI lost 18p to 694, Beecham 11p to 300 and Imperial 4p to 166. Rank, however, gained 13p to 353 in further consideration of Thursday's interim results. Allied Lyons firmed 3p to 223 on speculative demand.

Banks eased ahead of a possible U.K. base rate cut. Barclays lost 8p to 399 and Nat West 15p to 699. Insurance eased, with Legal and General 17p down at 662.

Electricals dropped after a firmer opening with STC 2p off at 102 after 106. Plessey ended unchanged at 132 after 136.

Oils were weak with B.P. 5p down at 521. Shell 3p off at 673 and Saxon 3p lower at 350.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY, JULY 13, 1985

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The daytime is good for you to use for whatever practical duties you find difficult to accomplish during the busy week, so get at them early and you achieve fine results.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Enhance your property and possessions in some way during the daytime. Evening is fine for being with good pals.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) You can handle small personal matters during the day and then concentrate on how you can become more successful.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) You can handle that private worry wisely during the day and then you have free time to be with persons you like.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) During the day, get clear in your mind what your personal wishes are and in the evening, enjoy yourself.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) You have many duties to handle in the outside world and should do them wisely. Go after personal wishes in the evening.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Be tactful with your mate in the afternoon and enjoy some new kind of pleasure together. Seek a favor from your boss.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Clear up pending business duties during the day and then make new allies. The evening is fine for gadding about town.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Be sure to keep promises you have made to outside partners during daytime and tonight have a happy time with your mate.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You have much work to do during the day, so relegate pleasures to the evening. Be careful spending money.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Get out for pleasure during the day, but get duties at home handled well tonight. Do what is asked of you by your mate.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Get at those duties around the house about which you have procrastinated lately. Try to please a family tie.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Get shopping and marketing done as well as other duties you have neglected of late. Budget your money carefully.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will live in life understanding how to carry through successfully with practical affairs, but upon reaching maturity, will want to have more diversified interests. Be sure you give as fine an education as possible.

THE Daily Crossword by James R. Burns

ACROSS

- Warm feeling
- Sarcasm
- Roosting place
- First quality
- Take on
- Hilo radio
- Asses
- Minute amount
- Competitive
- Women's organization
- Compass heading
- Grain fruits
- Joined
- Wears
- Pony or bean
- Grants use of
- Except
- "Arrivederci"
- Inhibits
- Shrub or tree
- Outing
- Try out
- Spills
- School paper
- Yawning
- Long boats
- A candied fruit rind
- Pop singer
- actors
- Literary collection
- Confederate
- Secret agent
- Shuttle top
- Bucket
- Rant's garb
- Apple type
- US city
- Square
- Dance movements
- Ship-shaped
- clocks
- Evergreens

DOWN

- Share outfit
- Month or
- Feline
- Blame
- Tom Mix e.g.
- Civil egg
- NFL entry
- Part of M.A.
- Irish fuel
- Innate
- Yale man
- Wandered
- Cherry or like
- Drugged
- Swamp
- Baseball's
- Doubtless
- Apple type
- Wood strip
- Artistic
- Acorns
- Army chaplain
- US composer
- Court or
- Beaver State
- abbr.
- Marcel Marceau
- Art repro-
- Stimulus
- scolds
- Row of seats
- Also-ran
- Racing boats
- Art repro-
- Computer food
- Fr. historian
- Arch
- Countess of
- Wood
- Vendition
- Ship's nose
- Puppy cat
- Countess of

Soviet press warns workers, urges bold 'total rearmament'

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet daily Pravda Friday stepped up a campaign for radical changes in the economy, calling for "complete rearmament" in all sectors and warning workers who stood in the way they could lose their jobs.

In a front page editorial echoing demands by Kremlin chief Mr. Mikhail Gorbachev for the revitalization of industry and agriculture with an emphasis on science and technology, Pravda declared:

"The country needs not just any renewal but a full rearmament of the whole technological chain..."

In language stronger than that in previous articles it exhorted workers:

"If you want to improve your own and your collective's material

standards and gain the respect of society — boldly modernise technology, save resources, cut down on losses, learn to walk in step with life, move forward more quickly."

"If you don't want to or can't act like this — don't hope to receive your wage or the average salary just the same or to keep your job," Pravda said.

It was the duty of communists first and foremost to show initiative and a high degree of responsibility, Pravda added.

The editorial followed a speech Thursday in which Mr. Gorbachev, addressing workers in the Byelorussian capital Minsk, again indicated his intention to implement economic reforms, but without clearly spelling out mea-

sure. Meanwhile, a separate article in Friday's daily Sovetskaya Rossiya criticised problems in energy, agriculture and light industry, acknowledging that they gave rise to serious concern and urging the "speediest constructive solutions".

Repeating Mr. Gorbachev's favourite watchwords it stressed the need for discipline, organisation and more effective use of work time and labour productivity.

Following a shake-up of regional party officials, Mr. Gorbachev has now turned to the country's ministries and in the past week at least two ministers — in charge of ferrous metals and light industry — have lost their jobs after poor output figures.

U.S. trade deficit may top \$140b

WASHINGTON (R) — The U.S. trade deficit in 1985 was projected to be \$140 billion to \$160 billion by most forecasters, an increase from a previous estimate, the Commerce Department said Thursday.

The projected shortfall, which reveals a weak side of the U.S. economy, would easily pass last year's record of \$123.3 billion.

The department said the deficit was caused by the strength of the dollar, faster U.S. economic growth compared to other industrial nations, and the debt problems of developing countries.

Commerce Secretary Malcolm Baldrige had projected a deficit of \$130 billion last month.

A positive development was that the deficit was growing more slowly this year, the report said.

The deficit in 1984 was nearly double the \$69.4 billion of the previous year.

Even if the dollar declines in 1985, as it has been doing lately, the gains in price competitiveness for U.S. exports would not significantly help trade this year, the report said.

Other factors that hurt in 1984 were a narrowing technological edge for U.S. manufacturers, increased oil imports, and restricted access to markets.

Increasing deficits would turn the United States into a debtor nation this year, meaning the United States owes more to foreigners than they owe to the United States.

Deficits will also build sentiment for protectionism, the report said.

Meanwhile, U.S. Secretary of State Mr. George Shultz Thursday criticised protectionism in trade and called for global talks this year to keep world markets open.

He said the success of a new round of trade talks scheduled for September was essential.

He told a meeting of foreign ministers from the West, Japan and South East Asia Washington was committed to open international trade despite running a record trade deficit.

East Germany, China agree major trade pact

PEKING (R) — East Germany and China have agreed on a major long-term trade pact, East European diplomats said Thursday.

The five-year agreement is the latest deal under which China hopes to significantly boost economic ties with the Soviet Union and its European allies, despite continued political differences, the diplomats added.

The pact is due to be signed on Monday when East Germany's visiting economic planning chief Mr. Gerhard Schuerer returns to Peking. He left the Chinese capital for a provincial tour Thursday after wrapping up the negotiations.

Earlier, China and the Soviet Union signed a \$14 billion agreement in Moscow under which annual trade will double to \$3.5 billion by 1990.

The diplomats said they did not know the size of the Sino-East German pact but the details had been worked out.

China wants to expand economic cooperation with the Moscow-aligned countries and seek their technological help and investment as well as boosting trade.

Premier Zhao told Mr. Schuerer on Tuesday that he hoped

China and East Germany would find new ways to cooperate.

"China's (14 major) coastal cities had been opened not only to Western countries but also to the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe," the official New China News Agency quoted Mr. Zhao as telling Mr. Schuerer, who is chairman of East Germany's state planning commission.

"Zhao said both China and Democratic Germany were Socialist countries, although not quite similar in economic structures, and both sides had favourable conditions to develop bilateral friendly cooperation," the agency reported.

Soviet and East European advisers helped China build many industrial projects during the 1950s but left abruptly when Moscow and Peking split over ideological, foreign policy and territorial disputes in 1960.

Most cooperation was suspended, with few exceptions such as a Sino-Polish joint shipping company in Shanghai. By 1980 China was taking less than one per cent of East European exports, down from between four and six per cent in 1960.

Dollar slide continues

LONDON (R) — The decline of the dollar continued on foreign exchanges Friday when it was sent reeling by an announcement from Washington that U.S. retail sales fell sharply in June for the second successive month.

Traders said the 0.8 per cent drop in retail sales activity, after a 0.5 per cent decline in May, was much bigger than had been forecast by financial analysts, and hardened views that the U.S. economy had slowed down again.

The dollar shed about 2 1/2 pennings immediately after the figures were released, dropping as low as 2.8770 German marks, its lowest level since Aug. 29 last year, before recouping some of its losses and settling around 2.89.

Sterling, which with high British interest has proved a major attraction for currency investors over the past week, firmed to a day's high of \$1.3905, compared with a closing rate of \$1.3275 last Friday.

Hopes of an imminent cut in British bank base lending rates, now 12 1/2 per cent, remained high as money market rates in the city.

Market speculation of a cut was prompted Thursday when the Bank of England (central bank) reduced its money market rates — a signal that the government was responding to political pressure from industry and its political allies.

Radical scheme alienates Mexico from OPEC rule

MEXICO CITY — Mexico Thursday introduced a radically new oil pricing scheme which analysts said made a bold break from its usual conservative stance and marked the end of its strict alignment with OPEC policies.

Faced with a drastic decline in the oil sales which make up three quarters of its foreign income, the world's fourth-largest oil exporter has begun pricing oil sales which make up three quarters of its foreign income, the world's fourth-largest oil exporter has begun pricing oil according to its destination.

The idea is to match Mexican oil prices, previously sold at a flat long-term contract rate, with the varying rates being offered elsewhere, the energy ministry said.

Instead of one flat rate, there will now be a scale of prices according to the grade of oil and where it is bound.

The move is a direct response to the widespread discounting policies followed by members of the 13-nation Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), the ministry said.

Mexico, though not a member of OPEC, has been keeping in step with the cartel in the interests of market stability, but in an unusually strongly-worded statement Thursday made clear its exasperation with the lack of discipline within OPEC.

Diplomats said it was too early to assess the impact of the move on customers but all agreed it was a radical and innovative step, though one which might possibly upset the United States and Japan, both major clients.

Under the new scheme the United States from this month pays more for both the heavier Maya and light Isthmus grades than either the Far East or Europe.

The global price of Isthmus is now \$26.75 a barrel for last month's delivery — a reduction of \$1. However, Far Eastern customers will pay \$26.50 in July while Europe will be charged \$26.25.

Maya will be sold to the United States from July at \$23.50, to the Far East at \$23.00 and to Europe at \$22.50 from its previous level of \$24. The United States takes around half of Mexican crude exports with Spain the second biggest customer and Japan third.

Traditionally Mexico exports an average 1.5 million barrels a day of its 2.7 million barrels daily production.

But its refusal to bow to market pressure and reduce prices in line with recent spot market levels has brought about a sharp reduction in sales and export revenue.

After delegates at the latest OPEC meeting failed to reach any decisions on oil sales or price structures, Mexico has decided to go its own way for the first time since 1981.

But the energy ministry has nonetheless stressed its willingness to act with other producers and said it would not try to recuperate lost export revenue by increasing exports.

It said the government would note carefully the effects of the latest moves and would not follow the example of other exporters in offering special deals or discounts.

The new pricing policy, which received a guarded welcome from independent analysts, is seen as

evidence of a new realism from a country which perhaps more than any other regards its oil as a national heritage.

The weakening of oil prices this year forced Mexico to redraw its budget strategy but analysts are not predicting a recurrence of the 1982 liquidity crisis which sparked the Latin American debt bomb.

Most agree that unless world prices fall to around \$20 a barrel Mexico can avoid recourse to emergency foreign borrowing.

In Rotterdam, European oil traders said they were waiting to see how U.S. energy markets reacted to Mexico's new pricing scheme before giving their own response.

European refiners, who had cut back sharply on Mexican liftings, will benefit most from the new pricing structure.

The refiners said they were examining the economics of the new prices, especially on Maya, and thought it was far from certain that their purchases would recover.

But Tokyo refiners were unhappy at having to pay more than Europeans and said they saw no reason for the differential.

"Naturally we will meet in the next few days to decide what action should be taken," said one trader, who pointed out that Japanese buyers must also ship their oil over greater distances.

Japanese refiners were discussing increasing Mexican crude buying but they won't as long as the price is less favourable than to Europe, another buyer said.

In Cairo, sources at the Egyptian General Petroleum Corporation said the state-owned firm was studying the market and assessing Mexico's price cut, but was unlikely to decide whether to cut quotas for Egyptian crude oil before Sunday.

Peres fears mass exodus due to gravity of economy

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel's Histadrut trade union federation said Thursday it would start an indefinite general strike next week unless the government agreed to reduce pay cuts for workers in its emergency economic decrees.

Histadrut Secretary General Yisrael Kessar told reporters that it was up to the government to avert the strike.

"If the government agreed to be more flexible on the question of wage erosion, we will not strike. The situation of the economy is bad and we know it. But sometimes you have no other choice," he said.

The Histadrut, which embraces 80 per cent of the country's salaried workers, earlier called off a stoppage by 70,000 public sector workers Thursday. Electricity workers continued industrial action, causing power cuts in major cities. The union said it cancelled the strike because Prime Minister Shimon Peres had agreed to delay the dismissal of some 10,000 of its members. Mr. Peres took a tel-

ephone vote of the cabinet Thursday and decided to postpone the sackings until the negotiations were over, a spokesman said.

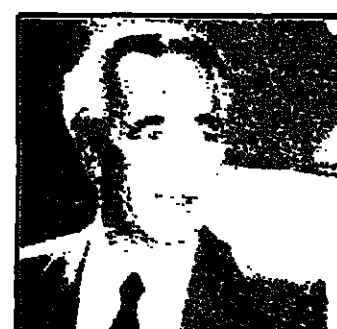
Mr. Peres' nine-party coalition, in an unprecedented move 10 days ago, announced emergency measures including a devaluation of the shekel, a wage freeze, cutting government spending and slashing subsidies on basic foods.

The Histadrut, angered at being left out of such decisions and complaining that the worker was hardest hit, brought the country to virtual halt for 24 hours. Since then there has been wildcat industrial action while talks continued.

Labour Minister Moshe Katzav told state radio that the 10,000 dismissed public workers would be employed elsewhere through a labour mobility and retraining scheme.

Economy is worse than most people imagine

Mr. Peres has expressed fr-

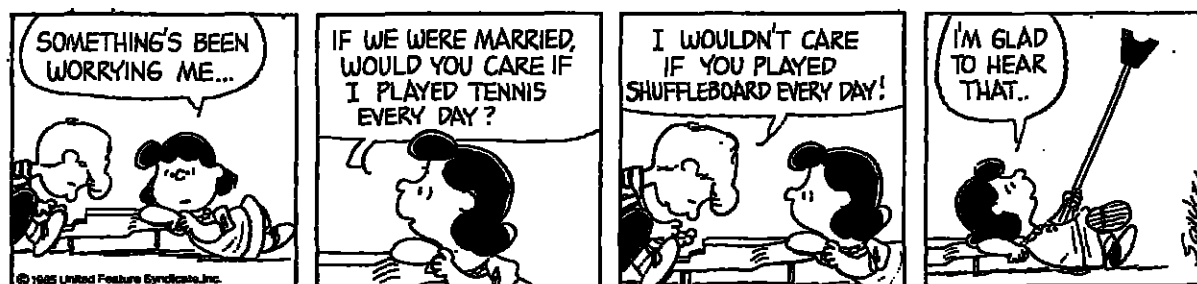


Shimon Peres
stratum at what he has called distortion of the economic plan in the media. He also says the economy is much worse than most people imagine.

"I cannot describe the seriousness of the situation because people would simply leave," he said.

In an attempt to go directly to the people, he ordered state television to grant him time to explain the plan. But the Histadrut ordered TV workers to block the broadcast and television screens went blank.

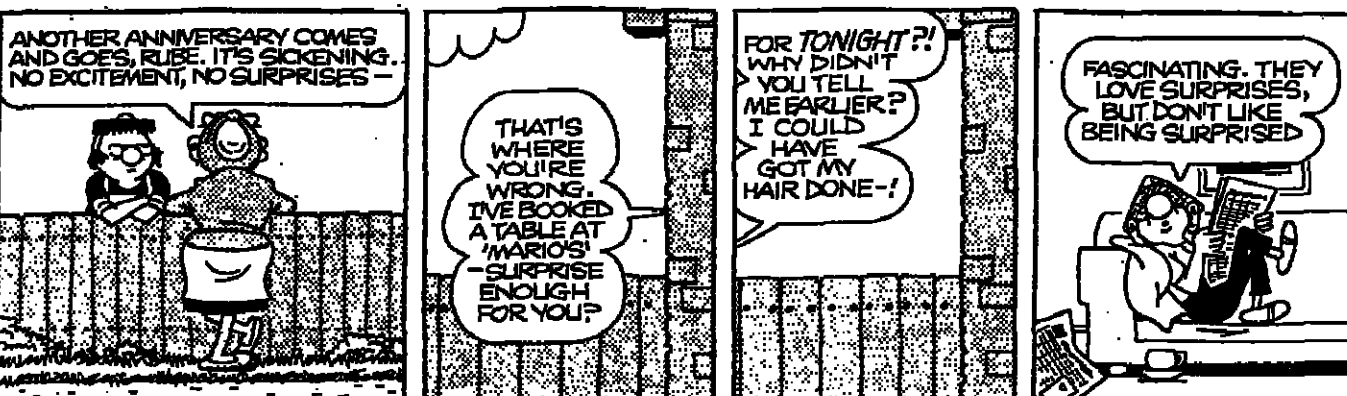
Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lea

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

CULOT
LAMB
LESING
TREBUT

WHAT YOU NEED TO HAVE IN ORDER TO BE AN ORGAN GRINDER.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: A CULOT FOR TREBUT

Yesterday's Jumbles: TUNED GLORY SLOGAN IMBUE
Answer: How that perfume held him — "SMELL-BOUND"

Senate votes South Africa sanctions in rebuff to Reagan

WASHINGTON (R) — In one of the most stinging foreign policy setbacks for President Reagan, the Republican-led Senate has voted strong sanctions against white-ruled South Africa to protest against its racial separation.

The White House opposed the bill, which passed 80 to 12 Thursday night, arguing that the president's policy of persuasion was leading to improvements for South Africa's 23 million blacks.

Despite his opposition, however, two key Senators say they expect him to sign into law a bill once the Senate measure is reconciled with an even tougher one that passed the House of Representatives by a wide margin.

Democrat Edward Kennedy of Massachusetts and Democratic leader Alan Cranston of California noted the overwhelming bipartisan support for tough action.

"I believe the president would sign it in view of the support within his (Republican) Party," Sen. Cranston said.

"I don't think the president has any alternative but to sign it," said Sen. Kennedy, whose trip to South Africa in January led to a drive for the sanctions bill.

The bill would bar any American bank from making a loan to the South African government and prevent exports of American nuclear technology or goods and computers used for police enforcement of apartheid.

If substantial progress is not made within 18 months to change laws barring blacks from voting for national offices or restricting their freedom to travel, the Senate bill calls for even tougher curbs.

Under the terms of the House bill, if it became law, these tougher restrictions would take place immediately. They include no fur-

ther expansion of American businesses in South Africa and a ban on imports of the gold Kruggerand coin.

One amendment that cleared the Senate that was not in the House bill calls for the minting of an American gold coin to compete with the popular gold South African coin.

It would be the first official, non-commemorative, gold coin since the United States went off the gold standard in 1933.

Talking to reporters, Sen. Kennedy said the Senate "took strong action to separate the United States from the oppressive regime of South Africa."

He called it a "clear message to the peoples around the world that there is a new policy of hope, reconciliation and justice."

Mr. Reagan's Republican Party controls the Senate 53 to 47. All 12 votes against the bill came from Republicans.

Opponents said South Africa was making progress towards eas-

ing apartheid and an anti-Communist ally would be alienated by sanctions that should be applied to the Soviet Union.

Those hurt the most by economic restrictions, said right-wing Republican Senator Jesse Helms of North Carolina, would be blacks whose standard of living in South Africa were the best in the continent.

But Sen. Cranston called the policies of racism "morally repugnant" as did most Republicans.

The momentum for the strong Senate vote appeared to come from nationwide demonstrations by Americans since late last year at universities, in city streets and in front of the South African embassy here opposing racial discrimination.

Meanwhile South Africa's state radio, commenting on the vote in the U.S. Senate for economic sanctions against Pretoria, said Friday that such hostile action would cool relations but have no effect on South African policies.



KUWAIT BLASTS: One of the two restaurants, Salmieh National Coffee, bombed Thursday in Kuwait. The restaurant blasts killed 11 people and injured 89 (AP wirephoto)

Shultz supports ASEAN peace plan

KUALA LUMPUR (R) — U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz abandoned his reservations and announced support Friday for South East Asia's new peace plan for Kampuchea.

Mr. Shultz told a meeting of foreign ministers from the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) he had accepted their explanation that the plan would not imply recognition of the Vietnamese-installed Heng Samrin administration in Phnom Penh.

Despite Mr. Shultz's change of heart, Western delegates said the plan still seemed doomed because Hanoi and Phnom Penh had poured scorn on it.

The ASEAN members — Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia, Singapore, the Philippines and Brunei — had mapped out a strategy calling for indirect peace talks between Vietnam and Kampuchean guerrillas who have waged a six-year war to topple the Phnom Penh government.

Heng Samrin representatives would be admitted as part of Vietnam's delegation to talks to be conducted through an intermediary.

Mr. Shultz, in a last minute addition to his speech, said: "The ASEAN call for proximity talks introduces a new element into the equation. There are of course

risks. Many interests are involved, particularly those of Thailand, the front line state."

He added: "The main thrust of the proposal is, however, laudable... this approach deserves the backing of the international community and the United States certainly supports it," he said.

But Malaysian Foreign Minister Ahmad Rithauddeen told a conference session Friday that Vietnamese Ambassador to Kuala Lumpur, Nguyen Can, had sought clarification of the peace plan and told Foreign Ministry officials Hanoi had not formally rejected it.

Black S. African found dead amid protests

JOHANNESBURG (R) — South African police said Friday a black man was found dead overnight in a protest town black township east of Johannesburg as unrest which has claimed about 500 lives since February last year continued unabated.

Police headquarters said riot squads fired birdshot, rubber bullets and teargas in overnight unrest to disperse black crowds in various clashes across the nation. Police reported arson and stonethrowing in several townships.

The overnight death was in Tsakane, one of a cluster of tense black townships where violence has erupted in the past week. Another man was found dead in nearby Daveyton Thursday.

Two white women were assaulted by a group of blacks in an affluent suburb of Johannesburg Thursday, a rare spillover of the current unrest into a white area.

Defence Minister Gen. Magnus Malan Thursday denied army involvement in any action tending to inflame unrest in black townships.

He said in a telex to the Archbishop of Cape Town, Phillip Russell, at the Anglican Church's synod in Natal that the army was doing what it could to prevent further violence.

The synod decided earlier this week to ask the archbishop of Cape Town to seek an urgent meeting with President F.W. de Klerk to discuss the township violence.

Gen. Malan was responding to an earlier telex from the archbishop calling for a judicial inquiry into the unrest among ele-

ments of South Africa's voteless blacks under a white-minority government that enforces apartheid or racial segregation.

The Sowetan, a black leadership newspaper, meanwhile reported that three people died in unrest on Wednesday in Duduza township near Johannesburg, where Nobel Peace Prize-winner Bishop Desmond Tutu intervened to save the life of a suspected police informer being attacked by a crowd.

CIA clerk, Ghanaian held for spying

WASHINGTON (R) — A nephew of Ghanaian leader Jerry Rawlings and a Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) clerk have been accused of spying for Ghana by passing information including the names of Ghanaians working for the CIA.

Their arrest brought to 23 the number of individuals accused of espionage since early 1984, the most at any one time in U.S. history, officials said.

"They said Sharon Scranage, 29, a clerk for nine years with the CIA, had been passing information to Michael Agbotui Soussoudis, 39, Mr. Rawlings' nephew, since December 1983."

They said she had been Soussoudis' lover and gave him the information when she was a CIA clerk stationed in Ghana until last May. She was then reassigned to CIA headquarters near Washington and continued to spy for Ghana.

The officials said Federal Bur-

eau of Investigation (FBI) agents arrested Soussoudis at a meeting Scranage set up to trap him on Wednesday, and arrested her Thursday.

The two were jailed to await bail hearings next week. Officials said they expected no other arrests in the case.

Soussoudis said at a court hearing Thursday he was a relative of Mr. Rawlings but denied working for Ghana's government. Mr. Rawlings took power in a coup in 1981.

A federal complaint filed against Soussoudis in the court, however, said he had passed damaging information provided by Scranage to Ghana's intelligence service for 18 months with Scranage's knowledge.

It said the information included names of Ghanaians working for the CIA, information from secret cables on a Ghanaian request for Libyan weapons, and data on CIA intelligence-gathering methods.

and on equipment. Meanwhile the House of Representatives voted overwhelmingly Thursday to reinstate the death penalty for military personnel convicted of peacetime espionage.

The vote of 320 to 101 reflected congressional outrage over the recent arrest of four men alleged to be involved in a navy spy ring. One congressman said it was the first recorded vote in the House on the death penalty issue since 1977.

The House recently approved by voice vote reinstatement of the death penalty for military personnel convicted of peacetime espionage as an amendment to the 1986 defence bill.

But Republicans wanted a recorded vote to strengthen the House position when House and Senate negotiators meet soon to reconcile their different versions of the bill.

U.S. studies option of killing terrorist leaders, report says

WASHINGTON (R) — The Reagan administration is studying a policy option of assassinating those it believes to be terrorist leaders, U.S. television has said.

The White House had no comment on the report about the option, which if finally approved would reverse a decade-old ban on U.S. government-authorized assassinations.

The NBC Network News programme quoted unnamed administration officials as saying all policy options including assassination would be presented to President Reagan for consideration.

One suggestion being discussed, it said, was to permit military commando teams to carry out the executions.

The report said there would be a lengthy review including consultation with congressional intelligence committees before Mr. Reagan decides whether to revive assassination as a policy option.

Meanwhile Vice-President George Bush Thursday appointed a veteran of three wars, Admiral James Holloway, to direct the U.S. task force on terrorism set up after the hijacking of a TWA plane on June 14.

He told the National Press Club that Adm. Holloway, a retired admiral who served in World War II, the Korean and Vietnam wars, would "bring enormous depth of experience to this new assignment" as executive director of the task force.

Peruvian rebels bomb party offices

LIMA (R) — Peruvian guerrilla bombers blacked out much of Lima briefly and damaged offices of the country's incoming ruling party on the eve of a party congress which is expected to discuss a possible amnesty for some detained rebels.

The party, the American Popular Revolutionary Alliance (APRA), which takes office in two weeks' time, is also due to debate a wide range of policies at the three-day gathering.

APRA Senator Javier Valle Riestra told reporters he would propose that the 1,100 delegates approve the release of all rebels detained on charges of bloodless crimes.

Police said the bombs set off Thursday by the Sendero Luminoso (Shining Path) guerrillas wrecked electricity pylons near the capital, plunging the city into darkness for about 20 minutes, and damaged furniture and windows at four APRA district offices.

Sendero, whose five-year rebellion has cost more than 6,000 lives, accuses APRA of defending an unjust and semi-feudal society.

But Social Democrat president-elect Alan Garcia has vowed APRA would transform Peru by redistributing wealth to the poorest 75 per cent of the population which he said drew 17 per cent of the country's income.

Mr. Garcia, 34, also said his top priority would be to aid impoverished Andean farmers, but he has not yet announced a detailed economic programme.

The congress is due to elect a new party hierarchy this weekend. The outcome is expected to show how tight Mr. Garcia's grip is over his 61-year-old party, which takes power for the first time in history on July 28.

Tamil rebels deny part in plot to kill Jayewardene

MADRAS, India (AP) — The Eelam Revolutionary Organisation of Students (EROS) on Friday denied it was involved in a plot to assassinate President Junius Jayewardene of Sri Lanka.

The Sri Lankan government announced Thursday that two members of the Tamil separatist group were arrested in the capital Colombo near a van packed with 120 kilograms of explosives.

A government statement said the two told police the explosives were intended to go off at the presidential secretariat building when Mr. Jayewardene arrived at his office.

But the 78-year-old president was at home with the flu.

A statement issued by the Eelam group in this south Indian city said, "our organisation is in no way connected with it. This is just a slanderous allegation by the government to implicate us and to provoke us into a boycott of the Thimpu talks."

EROS is one of six Tamil separatist groups engaged in peace talks with the Sri Lankan gov-

ernment in Thimpu, capital of the Himalayan kingdom of Bhutan.

According to Indian news reports Friday, the groups issued a joint statement in Thimpu denying involvement in the alleged plot and describing it as "an attempt to discredit the liberation organisations."

The Sri Lankan government statement said the explosives were manufactured in India, but an Indian government spokesman said the country was "in no way involved."

"We condemn in unequivocal terms violence in any form," Salman Haider, spokesman for the External Affairs Ministry, said in New Delhi. He expressed "great dismay" at the alleged plot.

Mr. Haider added that India had appealed to all sides "to exercise maximum restraint at the present delicate stage" of the Thimpu talks.

Indian Foreign Secretary Romesh Bhandari flew to Thimpu on Thursday to help mediate the talks, aimed at resolving the island nation's bloody ethnic conflict.

Rubber dinghy found after protest ship blast

WELLINGTON (R) — Police said Friday they had recovered an inflatable boat abandoned on a beach shortly before bombs sank the Greenpeace flagship Rainbow Warrior in Auckland harbour and killed one of the crew.

Spokesman Trevor Tozer told Reuters residents saw a man haul the rubber dinghy out of the water and abandon it about two hours before two explosions ripped through the converted trawler at its dockside mooring on Wednesday night.

"We are looking for more information," he said.

Mr. Tozer said an unnamed Frenchman who visited the Rainbow Warrior just before the bombing is thought to be heading for Tahiti. Police in the French colony have been asked to interview the man.

"Naturally we want to speak to him," he said, adding however that police were seeking everyone who visited the ship and the Frenchman was "no more or less suspect than anyone else."

Meanwhile one of Greenpeace's seven world directors Friday said the bombs which sank the protest ship, killing Greenpeace Photographer Fernando Pereira of Portugal, might have been aimed at the environmental group's leadership.

Dr. Patrick Moore also said he believed members of an unnamed "non-government extremist organisation with paramilitary overtones" might have planted the bombs, but he gave no details.

Dr. Moore said the full directorship had been in Auckland for a meeting and all seven directors had planned to sleep on the Rainbow Warrior but changed their minds at a late stage.

"All of us are feeling quite lucky," he told Radio New Zealand. "If they wanted to intimidate us by killing one of our people it will only increase our resolve."

The ship, with its history of clashes with governments and other powerful sector groups, had been planning to lead a "peace flotilla" to the French nuclear test site at Mururoa Atoll.

The senior detective heading the inquiry into the sabotage, Alan Galbraith, said there had been no claim of responsibility for what was "probably" terrorism. He said two devices had been attached to the outside of the ship's hull, causing the blasts.

King accused of smuggling apes, ivory

BRUSSELS (R) — Belgian King Baudouin was accused by a Socialist newspaper of smuggling rare chimpanzees and ivory from Zaire on the royal jet which flew him back from a state visit last week. The Dutch-language newspaper De Morgen said its editor-in-chief, who accompanied the king on the trip to the former Belgian colony, saw elephant tusks being loaded onto the royal plane in Gemena, north Zaire, on the final day of the visit last Tuesday. It said that two African chimpanzees were taken to the zoo in Antwerp, Belgium, after the royal jet landed at the Brussels military airport on Tuesday evening. An official at the Belgian Agriculture Ministry, which enforces an international convention on trade in endangered animal species, told Reuters an investigation had started into the case which he said "appeared to involve royalty." He said his office had never received applications for import licences, compulsory under the convention, for the apes and tusks reported to have been brought into the country.

Turk punished for teaching Darwin theory

ANKARA (R) — A Turk who taught school children Charles Darwin's revolutionary theory of evolution that man is descended from monkeys has lost a tenth of his salary, the daily Cumhuriyet has said. The provincial governor of Bana, a western Anatolian town, accused teacher Ramazan Koca of "confusing young minds" with what he called Darwinist propaganda and making fun of Turkish beliefs and values, it said. Education Minister Vehbi Dincer said earlier this year his ministry's policy was not to totally disregard the theories of Darwin, a 19th Century British scientist, but to allow others to be taught as well.

Open heart massage revives dead woman

MANCHESTER, England (R) — A woman whose heart stopped for an hour was revived by a doctor who cut open her chest on her bedroom floor and massaged her heart until it beat again. Dr. David Morrison said Mella Quinn, 38, who collapsed with a heart attack at her home in north-west England, suffered no brain damage because an ambulance crew had managed to keep blood and oxygen supplied to her brain. "Her heart had stopped beating for an hour, possibly more," Morrison told reporters. "By any layman's standard, she was dead. We tried all the orthodox ways for half an hour and then I decided there was a chance if I opened her chest. It is unusual even in hospitals. I have never known anyone try it in these circumstances." A hospital spokesman said Quinn was now conscious and was expected to make a full recovery.

Sinatra agent denies marriage break

LOS ANGELES (R) — A press agent for Frank Sinatra has denied what he called irresponsible press reports that the singer and his fourth wife, Barbara, might be parting. The Sinatras will celebrate their ninth wedding anniversary at their home in Palm Springs, California, with friends, the agent, Lee Solters, said. "There is no truth to the irresponsible press reports about Barbara and Frank Sinatra's marital status," he said in a statement. New York press reports quoted "Sinatra insiders" as saying the relationship between the pair was unravelling and that the matter was more serious than a brief lovers' quarrel.

Hirohito to become longest monarch to reign Japan

TOKYO (R) — Emperor Hirohito will become the oldest monarch ever to reign in Japan when he marks the 30,757th day of his life Saturday, the imperial household agency said Friday. But the 84-year-old emperor, once worshipped as a divine being, intends to pass the day quietly without festivities, agency officials said. Hirohito's reign will surpass that of the 108th emperor Goimzono, who died in 1680 at 84 years and three months. Hirohito has ruled Japan for 58 years since ascending the throne on Dec. 25, 1926, and still enjoys good health, the agency officials said.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN

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'UNSAFE' IS NOT SAFE

Both vulnerable, North deals.

NORTH
♠ K Q 10 9 8
♥ J 9 4 2
♦ A Q 3
♣ 3

WEST
♠ 8 6 4
♥ 8 6 5
♦ 9 8 7 5 2
♣ 5 2

EAST
♠ A 7 5 2
♥ A K
♦ A K
♣ A 9 7 4

SOUTH
♠ 10
♥ Q 10 7 3
♦ K 10
♣ K Q J 10 8 6

The bidding:
North East South West
2 ♠ Dbie 2 NT Pass
3 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass
Pass Dbie Pass Pass

Opening lead: Five of ♠.

The surprise team of the 1984 World Team Olympiad in Seattle was undoubtedly Austria. They defeated the United States in the quarterfinals and, with one board to play, were leading Poland, the eventual winners, by 3 International Match Points in the semifinals. Then disaster struck.

Earlier in the event, one of the Austrian players had collapsed at the table. That put tremendous strain on the other two partnerships, and they had begun to show signs of fatigue. This was the calamitous final board.

In the other room, Poland had reached four hearts doubled on the North-South cards and had been defeated one trick. The Austrian North's two diamond opening showed a hand with five spades and four hearts. South's response was forcing, and North's rebid showed a diamond fragment and, therefore, a club singleton. In view of South's club holding, he should have tried three no trump rather than four hearts. That contract would have been unbeatable.

Against four hearts doubled West led a club. East won the ace, cashed the ace of spades and continued with a low spade. Declarer made the "unsafely" play of ruffing with a high trump—surely unnecessary, for West would have led a singleton spade at trick one.

However, all was not yet lost. Declarer led a trump to the nine and the king, and East continued with a spade. Declarer would still have tied the board had he elected to discard, but again he ruffed high. That was one high ruff too many. Declarer continued with a trump, but it made no difference whether he went up with the jack or ducked in dummy. When East won the ace of trumps, another spade would ensure that West's eight of trumps became the second undertrick. Down two-500.

Austria lost 7 IMPs on the deal, and a 3 IMP victory had been turned into a 4 IMP defeat.